

SOCER

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WEEKLY

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CANBERRA CITY IN UPROAR



DOWNER OLYMPIC SOCCER CLUB, the major sponsors of Canberra City Olympians, dropped a bombshell last week with a notice sent to all its Members, calling them to an Extra-Ordinary General Meeting this month on the 18th.

Canberra City Olympians' survival in the Olympic Airways Soccer League seems threatened should Downer's support be withdrawn.

It is no secret in the National Capital that the new Board of Directors of Downer Olympic, is not too happy with the sponsorship money pledged late last year for this season by the previous Board.

The pledged amount for the 1986 season is \$120,000 which was committed by last year's Board of Downer.

This was a cut-back from 1985's \$180,000.

The notice that went to members from the current president, Nick Xerakakis, states:

"The purpose of the meeting is to inform members that this club cannot meet the sponsorship monies pledged to pay to Canberra City Olympians at this stage."

The notice has sent shock-waves through Canberra's Soccer fraternity.

It was understood from last year that the sponsorship would be slashed from \$180,000 to \$120,000 this year.

Now the new Downer Board is feeling the pinch of such a commitment and is seeking the approval from its members to reduce this figure even

BY JOHN ECONOMOS

further still.

It is rumoured that the Board is struggling to meet interest payments on debts carried over from last year, forcing president Xerakakis to adopt severe draconian tactics to bring economic sanity as well as stability to the club.

To a large extent, I applaud the Downer Board's intended action.

Too often in the past, we have seen clubs commit economic suicide after refusing to live within their financial means.

The Downer Olympic Soccer Club situated in the Canberra suburb of Dickson, is a pleasant little social club set on two acres of land.

Since last year, the club has submitted applications to the Government to acquire further strips of land for extinctions to the club's facilities to erect a sporting complex that will incorporate a swimming pool and an indoor sports arena.

The financial drain on Downer's cash-flow has now prompted the club's President to put a plug in it.

Downer's backing, plus the James Hardie sponsor-



GRAHAM JENNINGS of Sydney Croatia (who is in Alan Vest's State squad) faces Sydney Olympic's MARSHALL SOPERS in Sunday's Match of the Day at Pratten Park. Honours were even at the end with a 0-0 draw.

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VEST PICKS STRONG STATE SIDE

NEW SOUTH WALES has taken no chances with team selection for the June 1 interstate match against Queensland at Perry Park, Brisbane.

Coach and sole selector Alan Vest has named a 14-man squad which includes several of the players who took the Socceroos to near-glory in the World Cup last year.

With players like Terry Greedy, John Kosmina, David Ratcliffe, and Alex Robertson included, it suggests NSW is using a sledge-hammer to crack a peanut!

What a pity Vest did not go flat out to give youth its chance in a match which Queensland surely cannot win.

With so many very good young NSW players on the fringe of the Australian team, this would have been the ideal occasion to give them a run in representative football.

One of the best of them, Robbie Slater, would have been picked but this might have badly handicapped his side, Blacktown City, in their Nanda Cup tie on the same day.

Teams with two or more players selected can postpone their Cup quarter finals.

Players who would have benefited from the trip to Queensland include, Tony Dakos, Ray Vlietstra, Alex Bundalo,

Paul Carter, Ian Gray, Robbie Wheatley, Ean Rodrigues, Jean Paul de Marigny, and David Skeen.

And there are plenty of others, too.

Coach Vest admitted there were several fringe candidates but pointed out that, as State coach, he was picking a team for one specific match and the problem of building for the future did not come into it.

Despite these criticisms, it is obviously a very useful NSW squad and it should win comfortably.

It is particularly pleasing to see Gerry Gomez, Chris Kalantzis, Graham Arnold, Mike Gibson, Frank Farina and the skilful David Lowe all selected.

GOALKEEPERS — Terry Greedy and Mike Gibson.

DEFENDERS — Gerry Gomez, David Ratcliffe, Arno Bertogna, Alex Robertson, Graham Jennings.

MIDFIELD — Peter Raskopoulos, Peter Tredinnick, Graham Arnold, Chris Kalantzis.

FORWARDS — David Lowe, Frank Farina, John Kosmina.

The Editor

FOLLOWERS of English football - and there are thousands of them in Australia - have been fascinated in recent weeks by the struggle for the first division championship.

The excitement really started around Christmas time with Manchester United clear favourites with a 10 points lead over all opponents. United slipped and Everton took over top place. Then, with West Ham United and Chelsea, the London rivals, in with a title chance, Liverpool almost stealthily crept into the lead.

This is good. A close finish is the essence of any competition.

In England, teams get three points for a win and one for a draw. Judging by the way the system has worked, it is an eminently suitable set-up.

Would it not be similarly suitable in Australia?

That is the question the rulers of the Olympic Airways National League and, indeed, the State Leagues should ask themselves.

Using the two-points-for-a-win system, Manchester United might never have been caught as they registered their many early victories. Chelsea and West Ham might have given up the chase long before the end of the season.

But with three points to be picked up from a match, there was always the possibility of catching the leading side even though a challenging side might be several rungs down the ladder.

We realise this coin has another side. If a team wins too many matches, and does not flop as Manchester United flopped this season, that team could open up a huge gap on all pretenders to the throne.

But this has not happened in England. The Old Trafford side threatened to make it happen when they won 10 successive games in a whirlwind start to the competition but, in the event, they were pulled back to the rest of the field... much to the dismay of their loyal supporters.

In Australia, the three points system has been tried. It was hardly given a fair trial.

It lasted for just one season before clubs voted it out. That was hardly a fair trial for something so new and experimental.

Perhaps the NSL clubs should give it another trial. What is there to lose?

It's not exactly as if the present set-up is attracting thousands of spectators to matches.

When a competition gets the disappointing attendances suffered by the National League, nothing would be lost by revamping the system.

It is not completely clear why the new system was dumped by the clubs after only one year.

Some State League officials felt Soccer here needed a uniform points system: in other words, we could not operate on three points for the national competition and two points for other leagues.

Awarding three points for a win would not suddenly transform a pedestrian competition into something capable of attracting huge crowds to its matches.

But it just might introduce a little more interest and competitiveness to the NSL or the State Leagues. Would this be so bad?

Let us not be brain-washed by claims from National League headquarters that there is a substantial growth in match attendances this year.

If crowds really are up, we should be happy. But let's be honest. Any administrator who is satisfied with the support Soccer gets in Australia right now is easily pleased.

It might be a good idea for the completely new 14-team NSL to kick-off next year with the English system of awarding points... and to give it a reasonable trial period of, perhaps, three years.

There is nothing to lose.

OLYMPIC AIRWAYS SOCCER ROUND NO GOALS, BUT BOY, OH BOY WHAT A GAME

ONE of the best adverts for club soccer in Australia was produced at Pratten Park on Sunday when Sydney giants Olympic and Croatia did battle.

BY TOM ANDERSON

This was a classic and one of the most exciting and entertaining games served up for many, many years.

And this is some achievement considering there were no goals and the game ended in a scoreless draw.

It belied the adage that

MARCONI MISS CHANCES BUT NOT POINTS

BY FRANK COLETTA

ALTHOUGH Marconi came home with the two competition points they were well below their best in beating Inter Monaro 2-1 at Marconi Stadium.

They were very lacklustre in their play and coach Les Scheinfugl gave the reasons.

"Some of their sluggish play can be attributed to the fact that I put them through a rigorous training schedule this week," Scheinfugl said.

"In the time I was away they were very much underdone."

Marconi missed some seven chances in the opening 20 minutes with David Lowe, usually so competent in front of goal being one of the culprits.

If nothing else the game then began to hot up in the physical sense.

When Marconi's captain Craig Mason tangled with Monaro midfielder Ian Wotherspoon it triggered a melee of a half a dozen players. The result was that Mason was shown the yellow card.

After another succession of missed opportunities Marconi finally went ahead with 20 minutes remaining when David Lowe raced into the penalty area only to be fouled by John Walsh, who only a moment prior to that had been brilliantly denied a goal by Marconi's keeper Bruce James.

Lowe took the penalty-kick himself and gave Steve Hoszowski no chance.

Four minutes from full-time Paul Carter made a stirring run down the right-wing. His cross was hit crisply across the face of goal and Rod Brown was on hand at the far post to make the score 2-0.

Almost immediately from the kick-off Monaro

without goals a game is worthless.

This was a humdinger from start to finish with every man a hero.

Even poor old Zeljko Jurin who missed a penalty for Croatia in the 55th minute did his bit to thrill the fans.

To be honest, a draw was a fair result and it would have been a shame if either team had lost.

It belied the adage that

There were stars throughout - especially youngsters Manis Lamond of Croatia and Chris Kalantzis of Olympic who looked brilliant and indeed likely Socceroos.

Present Socceroos Graham Jennings, Zarko Odzakov and Graham Arnold also starred and indeed it was a gutsy performance by Arnold to come back into the action after a bad head injury following a clash with Tony Dakos.

Jennings broke the heart of his former club with three timely clearances off the line with his goalkeeper Steve Watson beaten.

The Old Fellows also had their day and there was no better on the field than veterans - Croatia player-coach Vedran Rozic and Olympic goalkeeper Gary Meier.

Although the game was played at a tremendous pace and the tackling was ferocious, there were no bad incidents in the game.

Three players - Watson, Peter Raskopoulos and Marshall Soper were booked but all for minor offences.



STUART JOHNSTON

This highlights the brilliant refereeing of Adelaide's Don Campbell who was absolutely magnificent.

The game often saw from end to end with each team having gilt-edged chances to score.

Olympic started off in

devastating fashion in the first 10 minutes and they had almost a chance a minute.

Croatia then settled down to provide Olympic with a real battle.

The game was played in two halves with Olympic dominating the first 45 minutes and Croatia bouncing back to take the honours in the second half.

If there is a better referee in Australia than this fellow then I certainly haven't seen one.

To sum up, a titanic struggle and one that had the 7,819 crowd on their feet from start to finish.

As I stated earlier, if the fare in the NSL could be as good as this every week then there would be no worries whatsoever about the future of the game at club level here in Australia.

OLYMPIC: Meier; Rogers, Coady, Dakos (Spanoudakis 59), Phillips; Raskopoulos, Johnstone (Brandt 59), Estavillo; Soper, Stevenson, Kalantzis.

CROATIA: Watson; Savor, Rozic, M. Kovacic (Rezo 45), Jennings; Clinch, Rumors, Odzakov; Jurin, Arnold, Lamond.

REFEREE: Don Campbell.

CROWD: 7819.

GOALKEEPER WILLIE SAVES HIS SIDE

GOALKEEPER Willie McNally kept Adelaide City in the game against South Melbourne at Olympic Sports Field, and it was fitting that the home team's other star performer, striker Joe Mullen, rammed home the only goal of the match to give the SA club two vital points.

The clincher came in the 61st minute when City midfielder Sergio Melta got the ball in the middle of the park, sent a diagonal pass for Mullen to collect, and kept running to the left of the striker.

Peter Laumets in the South goal expected Mullen to lay the ball off to Melta, but Mullen, when he saw him start to move, buried the ball low into the net to the left of the keeper.

At the other end, it was McNally who defied South's new Scottish signing Danny Crainie, Charlie Egan (twice) Steve Blair, Gary McDowell and Bobby Russell.

South coach John Margaritis summed it up when he said: "We had 70 per cent of the ball, but they got the goal, and that's what counts."

Laumets was nowhere as busy as McNally, having to contend with only a Teddy Maybank effort, a drive by Charley Villani and watching a Melta header go over the bar.

But the two points were sweet for City boss Zoran Matic.

"We got there, but we have players who will

have to lift their game or they won't be there in the future," he said.

Paul Shillabeer returned to the City fold from State League club Beograd to replace the suspended centre-back Neville Flounders in the home line-up, and with midfielder Adrian Santac, Flounders and forward Paul Wilde to return this weekend, City is looking stronger.

The pressure is now on Margaritis who must be fighting for his coaching life at Souths.

The only consolation for him was that Crainie looked the part and was one of their stars after stepping off the plane from the UK on Friday.

However, once again the coach had to make a desperate move when he switched midfielder Alan Davidson to partner Egan up front and pulled Crainie back to the midfield, the position he played in Scotland for Dundee.

While the game was not vicious, referee Jim Rossis booked Maybank and Robbie Alberton from City along with South's Richard Miranda, Egan and Crainie.



WILLIE McNALLY

OLYMPIC AIRWAYS SOCCER LEAGUE ROUND UP

HERE COME SYDNEY CITY

SYDNEY CITY, served warning for the first time this year that they would, yet again, be a major force in the Olympic Airways Soccer League, when they methodically crushed Apia-Leichhardt 3-1 at the Sydney Athletic Field.

John Kosmina, Australia's World Cup skipper, also torpedoed his detractors by scoring two goals (one in each half), to add to his previous NSL total of four.

BY JOHN ECONOMOS

But, things looked reasonable for Apia in the first session when 1981 World Youth Championship Golden Boot Winner, Mark Koussas, a signing from Sydney Olympic, opened the score in the 23rd minute.

Striker Vince Colaguiri headed the ball towards the target which was easily cleared off the line by City's sweeper, Alex Robertson.

But the clearance went only as far as Koussas, allowing the nuggety striker to slot home his first

NSL goal for his newly signed club, from six metres out.

Kosmina in the 38th minute, balanced the books through excellent lead-up work from right-midfielder, Gerardo Gomez.

From a Joe Watson cross on the left, Gomez climbed near the back post to nod the ball down into the six-yard box for Kosmina to rifle in and hit the target.

The first session saw Apia's midfield trio of Alex Bundalo, Terry Butler and Zivko Hristovski hold Sydney City's "engine" of Gomez, Watson and Murray Barnes.

But in the second half the jokes were over as the powerful Barnes, Kosmina, Watson, Frank Farina and Grant Lee, all cut

loose with slashing, block-busting raids that ripped Apia apart.

Barnes and Farina in particular were spectacular as they attacked relentlessly as well as forcing extreme pressure in defence with quick shut-downs.

Sydney City broke the dead-lock in the 66th minute with another Kosmina to rifle in and hit the target.

na goal — again from set-play.

Following a Watson free-kick some 35 metres out, flank-striker Frank Farina headed on to Kosmina. Kosmina charged away to score from 12

metres out as he heavily collided with the advancing goalkeeper, Tony Pezzano.

With Sydney City in full control of all traffic, Farina under-wrote his team's victory by scoring the third and final goal.

Barnes from deep in his

own territory, knocked a magnificent first-time 40 metre through-ball which left-back Mark Brown failed to control.

Farina swooped like an eagle, gathered the ball and smashed a 22 metre angled drive that crashed into the left corner of the net.

A satisfied Sydney City coach, Eddie Thomson, stated after the match:

"We had almost full control of the match as our people quickly shutdown players all over the park."

"Today we showed for the first time some of our top form from last year."

Meanwhile an understandably dejected Apia coach, Rale Basic, critical of his own players, stated: "We were beaten by a better team. We were very naive in play."

SYDNEY CITY: McPherson; Hooker, O'Connor, Robertson, De Marigny; Gomez, Watson, Barnes; Farina, Kosmina, Lee.

APIA-LEICHHARDT: Pezzano; Bozanic, Bertogna, Stevens, Brown; Bundalo (Morsello 46th), Butler, Hristovski; Stewart, Koussas, Colaguiri. Referee: R. Mee. Crowd: 1,846.

AROK'S HAPPY WITH DRAW

BY PHIL MURPHY

ST GEORGE coach Frank Arok had to rely on his tried and tested defensive combination to hold Wollongong City to a scoreless draw in an entertaining match at Wollongong Showground.

With David Ratcliffe outstanding and Robbie O'Shea as uncompromising as ever, Saints did what they do best — destroy opposing forward lines.

Wollongong's front runners David Batten, Peter Kotamanidis and Robert Giraldi were never allowed room to move.

"My team has played a lot better but I am pleased to get away from here with a point because any team will do well to achieve this as the season goes on," Arok said.

"Wollongong are a very well-organised team and their defence gives nothing away."

Wolves coach John Fleming also said he was happy to wind up the evening with a draw in what was an eventful game for him.

Fleming was given a stern lecture by referee Terry Seacy for coaching from his dugout but the referee could have been better advised keeping an eye on what was happening on the field.

Seacy certainly didn't have one of his better games and Fleming said he was angry that Arok had been allowed to go straight up to the touchline and talk to David Skeen in the first half.

Seacy appeared very lenient on Saints striker Roy Cotton towards the end of the game when he received only a yellow card — one of five issued in the match.

Some blatant fouls were allowed to go unpunished while the game was stopped continually for minor infringements.

Ray Vlietstra and David Green were outstanding for the home team in defence, Vlietstra obviously keen to show Arok he is still around and keen to get into the Australian team for the Olympic Games.

Scoring chances were few and far between, Robert Giraldi going closest for Wollongong when he got up well to head a Saul Rivero free kick just wide.

Wollongong: Young, Green, Vlietstra, Chilby, Morlando, Cokely, Murray, Rivero, Giraldi, Batten, Kotamanidis.

St George: Greedy, Skeen, O'Shea R, Ollerenshaw (75 Petovski), Ratcliffe, O'Shea M, Rico, Moffitt, Porter, Cotton, Fletcher.

Referee: T Seacy. Crowd: 2736.

NSL RESULTS

NORTHERN DIVISION

BLACKTOWN 0 **CANTERBURY** 1 (C Thamnidis) at The Gabbie. Crowd: 1097.
MARCONI 2 (D Lowe, R Brown) **MONARO** 1 (F D'Arrapio) at Marconi Stadium. Crowd: 1632.
CANBERRA 0 **NEWCASTLE** 2 (D Naumov 2) at Bruce Stadium. Crowd: 965.
SYDNEY OLYMPIC 0 **SYDNEY CROATIA** 0 at Pratten Park. Crowd: 7819.
SYDNEY CITY 3 (J Kosmina 2, F Farina) **APIA-LEICHHARDT** 1 (M Koussas) at Sydney Athletic Field. Crowd: 1848.
WOLLONGONG 0 **ST GEORGE** 0 at Wollongong Showground. Crowd: 2736.

SOUTHERN DIVISION

FOOTSCRAY 2 (O Latif 2) **SUNSHINE** 1 (D Maclaren) at Schinter Reserve. Crowd: 3759.
GREEN GULLY 0 **PRESETON** 2 (S Lane, S Smith) at Green Gully Reserve. Crowd: 1820.
ADELAIDE CITY 1 (J Mullen) **SOUTH MELBOURNE** 0 at Olympic Sports Field. Crowd: 2000.
BRISBANE LIONS 1 (D Hunter) **MELBOURNE CROATIA** 0 at Richlands. Crowd: 2411.
HEIDELBERG 2 (A Hunter, B Tsolaris) **BRISBANE CITY** 1 (K Cooper) at Heidelberg. Crowd: 1200.
BRUNSWICK 2 (B Brown, J Sweeney) **ADELAIDE HELLAS** 0 at Olympic Park. Crowd: 1500.

NORTHERN DIVISION

	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Marconi	4	0	1	11	5	8
Sydney Olympic	2	3	0	14	6	7
Sydney Croatia	3	1	1	9	5	7
Wollongong	3	1	1	8	4	7
Blacktown	3	0	2	5	6	6
Sydney City	2	1	2	11	9	5
Apia-Leichhardt	2	1	2	5	5	5
Newcastle	1	3	1	6	8	5
St George	1	2	2	5	6	4
Canberra	1	1	3	3	6	3
Canterbury	1	1	3	3	10	3
Monaro	0	0	5	3	13	0

SOUTHERN DIVISION

	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Preston	3	2	0	6	0	8
Footscray	4	0	1	8	10	8
Brunswick	3	1	1	11	1	7
Adelaide City	3	1	1	12	6	7
Sunshine	2	2	1	6	5	6
H'berg	2	2	1	6	5	6
South Melbourne	2	0	3	3	3	4
Green Gully	1	1	3	5	6	3
Brisbane City	1	1	3	2	6	3
Melbourne Croatia	1	1	3	3	8	3
Brisbane City	1	1	3	4	11	3
Ad Hellas	1	0	4	5	10	2



WHEN SYDNEY CITY defend, all the side defends. In this pic alone, JOHN KOSMINA, GERRY RODRIGUES, GRANT LEE and GERRY GOMEZ are all on hand to stop a goalward movement from the opposition. Sydney City whacked Apia 3-1 on the weekend.

LIONS LIT-UP BY LIDDELL!

BY GREG RUSSELL

FORMER Queensland and Brisbane City stopper Frank Liddell returned to Australia from Scotland last weekend and sparked his new club Lions to its first NSL win of the season.

Lions, branded in Melbourne a fortnight ago as the worst side in the Southern Division, edged out Melbourne Croatia 1-0 in a thrilling match.

The winning goal did not come until a minute from the end of normal time.

Clark Anderson slipped a ball through the Croatia defence to Lions captain John Stewart, who had been moved into the forward line from midfield only minutes earlier.

Stewart outran Croatia's last defender Dave McIntosh then played a perfectly timed ball that cut out keeper Mirko Runje and allowed Lions youngster David Hunter to slam his shot into the open net.

The goal produced a sigh of relief as much as a cheer from the Lions

probable selections in the Queensland team to play NSW at Perry Park on June 1.

The win was new Lions coach Col Bennett's first and there was not a happier man at Richlands.

"We worked hard and deserved to win. But we can play better than that. We just have to start believing in ourselves," he said.

Melbourne Croatia coach Miron Bleiberg whose position now must be very much in the balance, conceded there was pressure within the club for his removal and the defeat had not helped.

But with Liddell in the side there was a new stability in the back line and the rest of the team built on that foundation.

Liddell, who returned to Scotland 18 months ago and has since been playing in the second division for St Johnstone, was among Lions best which was a tremendous effort considering he had arrived only 24 hours earlier.

A draw was probably a fair result on the number of chances, but on effort and determination, Lions were well ahead.

Steve Jackson, John Ogden and young Hunter were tireless in tackling and support and removed any doubt about their



FRANK LIDDELL

OLYMPIC AIRWAYS SOCCER LEAGUE ROUND UP

ASW'S ROUND-UP OF THE MELBOURNE WEEKEND MATCHES

FOOTSCRAY confirmed its right to a top five place with a hard earned win over **George Cross**.

The match brought great personal satisfaction to Ossie Latif, whose two goals in the first 20 minutes sunk his old club.

Georgie was strangely hesitant in the opening period, and Ernie Tapia cleverly worked his way down the right before crossing for Latif to score in the fifth minute.

A startling run by Vlado Bozinovski left the George defence mesmerised in the 20th minute as he laid on Latif's second.

Four minutes before half-time Don MacLaren caught the Footscray defence napping, slamming the ball home from outside the box after a neat one-two with Carl Gilder.

The game hotted up in the second half, and the Blues looked doomed when Dan Vukcevic was sent off by referee Chris Bambridge in the 60th minute.

George Cross dominated the second half especially after the send off but was unable to break through.

In the dying seconds of the game Zoran Nikitovic made a wonderful reflex save to deny Georgie a point.

The youngest player in the League John Marcovski played his first full game, and was just about the best player on the ground.

A bright future awaits this powerfully built midfielder/striker.

Footscray: Nikitovic, Barjakerovic, Vukcevic, Caric, Belic, Tapai, Curovic (sub Simic 63), Bozinovski (Oblak 55), Latif, Stosic, Lujic.

St George Cross: Kastner, James, Parton, Richardson, Taylor (sub Campelj 61), MacLaren (Innes 78), Faulkner, Bain, Marcovski, Lennon, Gilder.

BRUNSWICK JUVEN-TUS always had the beating of **Adelaide Hellas** at Olympic Park.

Brian Brown scored in the dying minutes of the first half, and Joe Sweeney celebrated his return after injury with a powerful header in the 72nd minute.

IMMIGRATION PROBLEM?

Newman, Psaltis & Co., Solicitors of Level 59, MLC Centre, Sydney will accept instructions in immigration matters and also other areas of Law.

For Appointments —

221 1614

BLACKTOWN CITY TOSSED BY BERRIES

BY BARRY DAVIES

BLACKTOWN CITY, surprisingly lost 1 nil at the Gabbie Stadium when they played hosts to non-favourites Canterbury Marrickville Olympic.

Petrov, Cole, Heys, Smith, Lane.

IT needed a great goal to give Heidelberg the points in a 2-1 win against Brisbane City at Heidelberg — and Peter Tsolakis supplied it five minutes from the end.

The score was 1-1 until that life-saver arrived for the home side.

Tsolakis gave Brisbane goalkeeper Robert Cox no chance with his dazzling shot from the edge of the penalty box.

The two previous goals were both from the penalty spot.



ALAN HUNTER

Heidelberg went in front when Alan Hunter converted the first penalty after a hand ball offence.

The second half was 16 minutes old when Kieran Cooper was brought down and the resultant penalty was scored by Cooper himself.

Green Gully: Denys, Vizzini, McLelland, Cannell, Douglas, Reynolds (Baricello 65), Fraser, Flavell, Cumming, Lewis, Ward.

Preston: Trainedes, Roodhouse, Dobson, Opanis, Ilioski, Campbell.

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ship of \$75,000, gave Canberra City Olympians one of the largest pooled sponsorships in the NSL.

But the large overheads attracted by NSL football created difficulties for Downer Olympic's club.

So what the Downer Board is basically telling the Soccer people of Canberra City, is: "If you want more cash for Soccer, get off your backsides and go out and raise it."

Already the Canberra City people have started to plan fund-raising functions, a Ball, plus running

Rather than jeopardise the social club's financial health, immediate economic surgery is being instigated by the Downer Board.

Will May 18 see the "Supply Bill" blocked by the Downer Olympic Senators?

Whilst the sponsorship monies are in fact very solid, they must be supplemented by gate-takings.

And here lies the basic problem.

But the consistently honest Blacktown coach, Casey de Bruin, stated to ASW:

"We didn't deserve to win this one."

"We had at least 75 per cent of the match yet couldn't put away our chances... more than a dozen. We rushed things in our anxiety to score."

"We failed to go wide and stretch them across as we continually were determined to go up through the middle where they bottled us."

"Good luck to them, they deserved their win. But in their midfield, Zaimi Burin, they've got a good player," De Bruin added.

But de Bruin was not too happy with his star striker, Robbie Slater.

Slater had a flat match and is capable of much better stuff.

In the 16th minute a strong Blacktown City invasion broke down on the edge of the box by Ian Barker the goalkeeper.

In the 22nd minute, Chris Thamnidis raced away but his 15 metre shot was just wide of the target.

Seconds before half-time, Slater missed the best chance of the match from 16 metres when Gary Byrne put him away. Slater grazed the post.

Slater again was in the middle of things in the 50th minute when he let go on the left a 20 metre drive which Barker blocked well.

But from the corner, Canterbury cleared very quickly and we saw Thamnidis scoot away into the clear by 60 metres. Approaching goalkeeper Barry Hoare, Thamnidis steadied himself to belt his 12 metre shot past the stranded keeper who had no cover in sight.

Blacktown City continued to dominate play with heaps of possession.

In the 57th minute, Knight crossed to Carroll who whipped in quickly to Bradley. Bradley fired and grazed the crossbar.

Two minutes later, Byrne crossed to Sandy who set up Carroll with a 10 metre chance but Carroll was wide of the target.

On the hour mark, Peter Willis just managed to clear off his own line a Zrilic shot which beat Hoare.

Nine minutes later, Canterbury's free-back, Spyros Hantzis, completely missed a cross and Bradley from just seven metres out also brought heart-failure to Blacktown fans.

Another chance by Slater in the 74th minute was scrambled away by Barker.

Then Thamnidis in the 78th minute, knocked a long ball to Zrilic who greatly disappointed his Canterbury fans when he was wide of the goal with his six metre drive.

Chances in the 84th and 85th by Denyer and Bradley went inches past the Canterbury goal.

Referee Alan Kibler, issued yellow cards to Bradley, Slater and Burin.

Best performers were Blacktown's Macleod and for the winners, Thamnidis.

BLACKTOWN CITY: Hoare; Wills, Macleod, Northern, Byrne (Elliem 61), Bradley, Denyer, Slater, Carroll, Sandy, Knight.

CANTERBURY M.O.: Barker; Hantzis, Radman (Jebraeli 81), Akoutas, Petas (Kirwin 57), Thamnidis, Borges, Svinos, Zrilic, Burin, Godzak.

Referee: A. Kibler.

Crowd: 1097.



ROSEBUD WIN ... CANBERRA DISPIRTED

BY KEN HEALEY

CANBERRA played like a team that had copped two kicks in the guts during the week in presenting Newcastle with a 2-nil win at Bruce Stadium.

The Rosebuds had to wait until the fifth round to collect their first win which came from goals in the 19th and 87th minutes from flanker Bobby Naumov.

Canberra, threatened with the withdrawal of sponsorship from its licenced club early in the week, and then losing coach Roy Thomson on Thursday night, played like the team it is: leaderless and not knowing to whom it should show loyalty or commitment.

Both teams had chances in the first 10 minutes, then Newcastle took control and dominated the rest of the first half.

Naumov's first goal came after a free kick on the edge of the penalty box. Defenders managed to get their legs in the way of Newcastle's first two drives, but Naumov put the third past Anthony Franken.

The second half consisted of very ordinary teams playing like candidates for next season's State League.

Just three minutes before the final whistle

Caretaker coach Steve Bryant, playing at left back, looked like a man under intense pressure. He tried to lead by example, but mixed some fine play with needless mistakes.

Canberra: Franken, Cant, Bryant, Harkins, Burke, Dunn, Mihailidis, Sermanni, Phillips, Gibson, Junna (Kulcsar 73).

Newcastle: Gosling, Milosevic, Cavanagh, Maier, Bannon, Crabtree, Senkalski, Ingham, Jones, Naumov, Owens.

Referee: Tony Pollard. Crowd: 965.



STEVE BRYANT

CANBERRA LOSES COACH THOMSON

BY JOHN ECONOMOS

ONE of the most popular and likeable coaches in the Olympic Airways Soccer League, Canberra City's Roy Thomson, through sheer frustration, has resigned suddenly from the club.

Canberra City this year, under Thomson, lost two matches from its last 12.

Yet the amicable Thomson was called before the Board to answer some ridiculous questions about his team.

He was asked questions like:

"What's wrong with our team?"

"Why is our team unfit?"

"Do you have full control of your team?"

"Why do you continually change your back-four?"

The normally placid Thomson, frustrated beyond all reasonable levels of tolerance, walked out on the club late last week, saying to the directors:

"You can coach the team."

Canberra could easily regret their pressure on Thomson.

The team lost last Sunday at home to Newcastle 0-2 and according to a respected journalist:

"Canberra played like a team without a coach and looked it."

Canberra City directors surprisingly and quickly appointed their midfielder Steve Bryant as coach.

Thomson, a loyal servant of the club since 1981, served as assistant coach to George Murray, Atti Abonyi and Doug Collins.

On the previous Sunday, Thomson pulled off an upset win in the Nanda Cup by defeating the highly fancied Melbourne Croatia.

Despite the team having lost only two matches in 12, the Canberra directors appeared unhappy with the coach.

An understandably dejected Thomson, said last night from Canberra:

"I feel I was set-up for this one before I went into the meeting."

"I am very sorry that all this has happened but I

just could not and would not be degraded any longer. A man must retain some self-respect."

Thomson has been employed as manager of a leading asphalt company in the ACT for the last 12 years.

Since taking over from his predecessor Doug Collins, he has done a solid job with the NSL squad.

Last year, Thomson just missed out in qualifying for the NSL's "Top Five Series" when Canberra finished equal fifth with St George but failed by the solitary goal.

Upon hearing the news of Thomson's resignation, six Canberra players contacted him expressing great disappointment.

At a time when Australian Soccer at club level, (despite the relative success of our National team), is at its lowest ebb, we still wonder why we aren't making headway.

Yes indeed why?

LEADING SCORERS IN UK

ENGLISH DIVISION ONE
37 — Gary Lineker (Everton).
31 — Ian Rush (Liverpool).
30 — John Aldridge (Oxford).
28 — Frank McAvinnie (West Ham).
25 — Mick Harford (Luton). Mike Newell (Luton, 19 for Wigan). Tony Cottee (West Ham). Mark Falco (Tottenham).
23 — Kerry Dixon (Chelsea). Graeme Sharp (Everton).

DIVISION TWO
24 — Kevin Drinkwell (Norwich).
22 — Keith Bertschin (Stoke).
21 — Keith Edwards (Sheffield United).
20 — Frankie Bunn (Hull).
19 — Gordon Hobson (Grimsby). Steve Lovell (Millwall). Dean Saunders (Brighton).

This weeks HACKY SACK/ASW winners are:

Matthew Hayes
(George Hall, NSW)

Brad Penfold
(Cronulla, NSW)

C. Cowley
(Bass Hill, NSW)

Ken Walkinshaw
(Uralla, NSW)

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The ASW Hacky Sack Competition

THIS year an exciting new Sport from America called Hacky Sack (TM) to take Australia by storm.

With a following of over 5 million players in the USA not to mention Europe this game has captured the imagination of young and old alike.

The object of the game is to keep the bag aloft in constant flight, using only your feet and knees. The World Record for consecutive kicks is at present 32,800.

The Sport version of this game is called footbag net or in lay terms, Volley Ball except the use of any part of the upper body is

disallowed.

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That's all you need to play the newest game sensation from America. Hacky Sack (TM) footbag can be played alone or in a group, indoors or outdoors even over a net for advanced players.

The Sport is based on ancient oriental kicking games dating back 2,000 years.

Tips For Kicks

BACK KICK: This kick is used when the footbag is going over your head or is directly approaching your upper body. The hips and upper body must rotate parallel to the direction of the footbag's flight to enable the footbag to pass and still maintain constant eye contact. Lean forward into the direction of footbag's flight and allow footbag to pass by before executing kick.

*Special Note: Contact point on the foot is the same as that of the outside kick.



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C/- Australian Soccer Weekly
P.O. Box 406
Broadway NSW 2007

Entries close Monday 12th of May

The draw will be made on Monday afternoon at ASW's Broadway offices and the winners will be notified by phone and/or post.

Each week ASW will publish 'Tips for Kicks' so you can get better at using the Hacky Sack Footbag.

Also keep reading ASW for details on more exciting Hacky Sack news.

AUSTRALIAN SOCCER WEEKLY In conjunction with the Australian Hacky Sack Footbag Federation gives you the chance to win one of two revolutionary Footbags!

SO here is your chance to win the great Australasian Hacky Sack.

Question One: Who won this year's European Cup Winners' Cup Final?
Question Two: Who was the top scorer in the 1982 World Cup Final?
Question Three: Who leads the OASL Southern Division? (Including goal difference).

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Address: _____

Phone No.: _____

Answer 1: _____

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CHIT CHAT

BRISBANE LIONS striker Joe Cairney has gained his permanent residency, which has given the club a valuable spare visa position.

Cairney, a former Kilmarnock player who came to Australia (Brisbane City initially) four years ago, gained his new status after a long wait.

Lions other visa players are St Johnstone pair Jim Morton and Frank Liddell, who is expected to arrive back in Australia next week.

Now he is no longer a visa player, Cairney is negotiating a new contract with Lions. It is understood he has also been approached by Canberra City.

Although his new status makes him a much more attractive signing proposition, it also removes the restriction on a transfer fee.

Cairney was signed from City on a free transfer.

UNLESS there is another unexpected addition to the 1986 fixture list, Soccer in Australia should be all over by October.

But Les Scheinflug's Australian Youth team will play Oceania Qualifying matches in the World Youth Championship in New Zealand in January.

The youngsters will go into that vitally important tournament three or four months after their club commitments end.

It's a big handicap — as Scheinflug knows only too well.

■ ■ ■

CANBERRA CITY Old Boys team leads the Canberra sixth division championship after four rounds. Nothing startling perhaps except that the average age of the City Club backed team is that the average age is 37 years.

Opponents are at least twenty years (average) younger.

Stars for the Old Boys team include current Canberra City youth team coach Mike Black (who has scored ten goals so far) Keni Kawaleva, Roy Stark, Danny Moulis, Charles "half a game" Perkins, Theo Moulis, Steve Doszpot and Johnny Warren.

■ ■ ■

JIMMY PATIKAS, due back in Sydney soon after a successful debut season with AEK in Athens, has chosen Sunday June 29 as the date for his wedding to fiance Denise Petreas.

That's a memorable date on the Soccer calendar. On June 29, the World Cup final is being played in Mexico City.

It's a good job there is a time lag before the game hits Sydney on television.

Invited wedding guests might have had to choose between the football match and the love match!

■ ■ ■

SCOTSMAN Stuart Porter, for the first time since he arrived at St George, looked a very useful player in the 3 - 0 loss to Blacktown.

Saints fans hope Porter has now settled into his new environment and will produce every week.

Discussing Porter's good match against Blacktown, Saints coach Frank Arok said: "Our trouble is, you get one player in good form and six others right out of form."

WARRINGAH FRESHWATER, the NSW State League side, are suffering ridiculous hassles in their attempt to find a regular training ground in their district.

The club, once known as Warringah Saints and then Warringah Narrabeen, is now firmly controlled by the former Freshwater club which was thrown out of the Manly Warringah Soccer Association two years ago.

The new club believes it is unpopular because of Freshwater's past record but the Association insists there is no bias against Warringah Freshwater.

For the past decade, Warringah has been able to train at Graham's Reserve but permission to use that ground was withdrawn this season.

Instead, the local amateur team from the Fishermen's club now trains there.

Warringah Freshwater, as a member of the Skypak State League, is only one rung down the ladder from the Olympic Airways National League and it would appear to have far more to offer the district than the amateur fishermen!

Warringah Freshwater now has to use training facilities at Valentine Park — and that's 40 kilometres from its home.

■ ■ ■

BRIAN NORTH-COTE, Adelaide City's midfield strongman, has suffered a set-back.

He will be out for the rest of the season following a second operation on an Achilles tendon injury.

AFTER the second round of the Nanda Cup in which Adelaide's Hellas beat neighbours Adelaide City, the Cup record between the pair shows four wins each.

They have met eight times since a Cup was introduced in 1977 — then it was the Phillips Cup.

Six of the games have ended in 1-0 wins while Hellas won 3-1 in 1982, and in 1977 it was a penalties decision for Hellas after a 2-2 draw.

City went on to win the Cup in 1979, beating St George 3-2.

■ ■ ■

SA STATE coaching director Mike Wells is hoping to clinch a game with NSW.

After winning the Delhi Clothing Mills international series in India last season, he is keen to parade his team again, and his NSW counterpart, Alan Vest, says he would be delighted to oblige, provided the NSW Federation agrees.

Wells is also hoping to play Victoria.

■ ■ ■

ADELAIDE CITY is hoping new signing Paul Wilde can carry his State League Second Division form into the national competition.

Signed from State League club Azzurri, he has been recovering from an ankle injury, but scored seven goals in a 17-1 Cup triumph in the local competition.

He could make his National League debut next week.

■ ■ ■

PAUL QUEENAN would be an automatic choice in any Northern NSW First Division side, such is his ability. But he has decided to make the change from the frying pan pressure of top grade football to the fire of Fifth Division. He will join coach Mike Trebilcock at Newcastle Croatia.

THE magazine "Your Sport" published an interesting article about former Socceroo Jack Reilly in its May issue.

Interesting but hopelessly inaccurate!

Writer Stephen Phillips seems to have gone out of his way to get his facts all mixed-up.

For instance he wrote that the 1974 Socceroos scored against West Germany in front of 104,000 people in Munich. Actually, they did not score and the game was in Hamburg with nothing like 104,000 people there.

He also wrote that the Socceroos lost by a goal to East Germany — in fact the score was 2-0.

More inaccuracies from Mr Phillips who wrote that Reilly played his first game for Australia in 1969. According to ASW records, Reilly's first run for Australia was in 1970 in Saigon against the Kowloon Bus Company!

Reilly was not really an established Socceroo first choice until just before the 1974 World Cup.

There are further references to Jack Reilly's "heading days" in Munich, although the Australian team has NEVER played in Munich.

■ ■ ■

REFRESHING to hear that CHRIS KALANTZIS has put his international career before the lure of going overseas to fame, fortune and adulation.

Kalantzis, who has been and is still eagerly sought by leading Greek First Division clubs has made his intentions clear.

"Ever since I started playing Soccer I've wanted to play for Australia."

He claims after he has achieved that then he may consider going overseas, but then again how different is that to what EDDIE KRNEVIC, JIM PATIKAS and ANDREW RFRNAR did?

WHEN Bradley Glasscock, the young Manly player, arrived in Manchester last week to spend a month training with Manchester United, he was amazed to get VIP treatment as soon as his plane landed.

Officials from United were there to greet him and escort him to the home where he is staying with other young players from Old Trafford.

Bradley started training with the United players on the day after he flew in.

Obviously, he is keen to use every day profitably as a way of saying "thank you" to the Dee Why Rotary club which sponsored his trip.

FRANK AROK was quite philosophical about St George's poor results when ASW spoke to him following the 3-0 home loss to Blacktown City.

Arok clearly blames some of his experienced players for what has gone wrong and he's determined to give youngsters a fair go.

"If I die, I will die with the kids," said the Saints coach.

When we asked what he would do if he "died" from the Soccer scene, Frank said: "I could try gardening. There might be a drought, but I could use a hose to water the place!"



STUART STEVENSON, has finally won ov

YOU need a sense of humour when you play for Sydney City under coach Eddie Thomson.

Socceroo Steve O'Connor was taken off with a back strain in the Cup match against Newcastle Rosebud.

When ASW asked Thomson how serious the injury was, E.T. answered: "It's nothing much — just old age."

■ ■ ■

APIA LEICHARDT coach Rale Basic believes his team problems could be solved if he had one or two top-class strikers.

"The sort of players I need are John Kosmina, Marshall Soper and Charlie Egan, but I don't think they're available," said Rale tongue in cheek.

■ ■ ■

WE do our best at ASW to be accurate with the spelling of players' names but it is difficult at times.

How about Blacktown's Don Macleod? THAT is the correct way to spell his name... or at least we think it is!

In a recent Blacktown match programme, Don's surname was spelled three different ways.

That doesn't make life easy for a Soccer writer.

■ ■ ■

SYDNEY CITY have made a big capture in getting talented Israeli World Cup winger Elly Ohana to join them as a guest.

Ohana is only 21 and is highly rated in Israel.

Probably he is best remembered by Australian spectators for being sent off in the World Cup qualifying match in Melbourne a few months ago!

The match was drawn but Israel desperately needed victory to have any hope of staying in the World Cup.

NSW STATE LEAGUE Soccer must rate pretty highly in Illawarra — perhaps even higher than the Olympic Airways National League.

Last Sunday's Wollongong Wolves v St George NSW match had to be brought forward to the Saturday night because it clashed with two State League games on the south coast.

Wollongong Macedonia v Avala and Fairy Meadow v Kuringai grabbed the prime time slot on Sunday afternoon.

We don't think Wolves officials were thrilled about that.

WHEN Les Scheinflug paid a visit to the Australian Institute of Sport to check some of the talent available for Australia's Youth squad, he said he was "pleasantly surprised" by what he saw.

"The youngsters seem well-drilled. They train every day, they're confident and keen and, above all they are willing to learn," said Les.

Scheinflug was given a friendly reception by AIS Soccer boss Jimmy Shoulder — and that speaks volumes for Shoulder who must have been disappointed to lose the national Youth team coaching position to Scheinflug.

The AIS players are due to tour Europe again soon but there will be plenty of talent for Scheinflug to assess in the National Youth Championship in Melbourne from May 12 to May 16.



CHRIS KALANTZIS, not leaving... just yet.

S T U A R T STEVENSON, Sydney Olympic's off season recruit from Melbourne, might not be the darling of the Olympic fans because of his goalscoring (or lack of it) but to his team-mates he is one invaluable player.

The Olympic side is mainly individual and if it were not for the support play, scrapping and service that comes from players like Stevenson in the forward line, **STUART JOHNSTON** in midfield and **MARTYN ROGERS** in defence, Olympic would struggle.

THERE wasn't much sign of the much heralded South Americans in the Sydney Olympic-Wollongong Nanda Cup match last week.

Olympic's Vicente Estavillo was a substitute as was Wollongong's Leonel Arcosa. Both made an appearance in the second half without creating much havoc while the supposed "daddy of them all," **SAUL RIVERO**, wasn't even present!

■ ■ ■

THE big question out Leichhardt way is whether the Apia committee ever really had control of the Gregors Lato deal.

The way things are going it seems as if the answer is "no." Lato and his mates may decide to "hit" Mexico for the World Cup Finals.

As Apia president Nick Papallo says, "I'll be far happier when I can see them in Australia with my own eyes and actually get to touch them." And so say all Apia officials and supporters.

■ ■ ■

THERE were quite a few chuckles out on the Western side of Lake Macquarie following the Leichhardt-Newcastle Rosebud 1-1 draw.

The scorers were Darren Stewart and Mark Jones. Both of these lads played for the Toronto-Awaba club in their earlier days before joining Newcastle Rosebud.

Mark played for the Australian youth side while Darren was a glaring omission.

■ ■ ■

TOMMY McCULLOCH is a fine footballer with nowhere to play at the moment. His talents are being wasted as he sits idle.

Apia will not release McCulloch for nothing, which is the sort of fee Scottish club Hibernian think he is worth. They've got two chances of that happening ...

Tommy should try to settle his differences with the Leichhardt club if it is at all possible because the \$30,000 tag placed on his head is out of reach of too many clubs at the moment.

■ ■ ■

WHO was the Sydney Soccer expert who asked some of his fellow scribes prior to last week's Scotland-England clash: "Does anyone want to back England?" One responded with: "Give us a two-goal start and I will."

■ ■ ■

CANTERBURY-MAR-RICKVILLE answered the criticism of their Arlington Oval home ground claiming it is in the best condition it has been for some time.

The mind boggles then as to how bad it was previously! Apart from fixing up the playing conditions at Arlington, Canterbury have bolstered their side with two former Dinamo Zagreb players, Peter Zrilić and Zalm Bourl. Both arrived last week and played on the weekend.

■ ■ ■

WHEN a club pays a record \$32,000 for a player, you'd think he would be the complete player.

But that's not how Sydney Croatia view their big signing of Manis Lamond from Canberra City.

Croatia coach Vedran Rozic says: "There is a lot Manis has to learn. He is getting special training and coaching and he will improve week by week.

"The boy is going to grow up in Soccer this season."

We're sure young Manis could not have a better tutor than Rozic.

■ ■ ■

THERE were murmurs in the Melbourne Croatia dressing room after the 0-1 loss in the Nanda Cup to Canberra at Bruce stadium. Supporters were muttering about the linesmen.

Can the NSL win on this one? Newcastle ref Jim Reeves controlled the game, and let it flow. The linesmen were locals.

Without actually accusing them of bias, Croatia coach Myron Bleiberg went on the record to demand that the league supply neutral officials for all such games.

ASW also agrees with the observation made in Kamasz's letter that there is no conflict between Olympic Airways and Ansett. How could there be when one is a domestic airline and the other an international carrier?

IN Canberra the whisper is that training with master keeper Anthony Franken brings results.

Canberra's reserve keeper, George Economopoulos, who is just a few months older than Franken, "did a Franken" against the AIS on Saturday, April 26, when Canberra scored an upset 3-0 win. Jimmy Shoulder joined Canberra coach Mike Black in heaping praise on young George.

Economopoulos looked safe for Canberra in this year's pre-season, while Franken was in Europe. In his only NSL game last year he won top points in Canberra's player of the year competition. Not a bad back-up for a champion keeper!

GEORGE DONIKAN, SBS newsreader and sometime Soccer commentator/expert, was caught with his pants down last week during the Sydney Olympic-Wollongong Cup clash.

Well not literally but what happened was George trudged into the press box at St George Stadium claiming: "The names of the players on the back of the Wollongong shirts is good to see."

Not quite George ... you see the name he spotted was KERN one of Wollongong's dual sponsors.

Anyhow if it was their names on their backs, there must be a pretty strong Soccer playing family on the South Coast, the KEARN family of 11 boys!

SOCEROO coach Frank Arok can be excused if he becomes confused over some of his charges.

South Melbourne coach John Margaritis, has turned international full-back Alan Davidson into a striker; Adelaide Hellas has been switching centre back Robbie Dunn to central striker, and word is they may try sweeper Charlie Yankos as a ball-winning midfielder!

■ ■ ■

CONGRATULATIONS to powerful Apia defender, **ARNO BER-TOGNA** for his role on SBS last week as commentator.

Arno's eloquent analysis of certain parts of the game were a tribute to himself and SBS.

WITH Derek Todd back in England Newcastle Rosebud United appear to be without a recognised striker. Why coach Peter Irving didn't get one while he was in England is a mystery. But it does highlight the fact that letting young Darren Stewart sign up with Leichhardt without a fight was hard to understand.

■ ■ ■

WOULD it be a good idea for the NSL to schedule at least one Saturday game every week in Sydney and Melbourne?

We ask the question because a spectator at St George claimed that Soccer fans who want to see two games, not one, every weekend are being deprived of the opportunity.

"I want to see a game on Saturday and another on Sunday, but I can't," he said. He also asked: "Is the NSL trying to drive customers away?"

■ ■ ■

LAST season Canberra lost only one game in Sydney, and that was the week the team went by bus.

Under a shrewdly devised scheme, Canberra arranged to share the cost of chartering a 20-seat aircraft which would bring down the team playing Monaro, then take the Canberra boys to Sydney. It landed at Bankstown or Kingsford Smith, whichever was closer to the ground, then the coach that had brought the youth team up early in the morning took the players from the airport to the ground. Both teams shared the coach on the way home.

Canberra has abandoned its plan this season. The reason? Only one club has paid its share of the plan cost. Shame, Sydney-based clubs! Is there no honour among competitors?

■ ■ ■

WOLLONGONG City are strongly opposed to the points system introduced by the NSL to determine the make-up of next season's 14-team league.

The club's attitude is that the top seven clubs in each division should stay in but coach John Fleming is all the more determined to make the cut-off.

"The whole thing is ridiculous really and everyone knows why the document was introduced," Fleming said.

"If the system isn't changed it will be up to may players to keep the club's identity and we can cause a bit of embarrassment to some people."

Fleming made this statement with his team sharing the NSL lead with four other teams — and Uruguayan Soul Rivero and key utility player Scott Dickson still to come back after injuries.



SUPERB ACTION, as brilliant young keeper ANTHONY FRANKEN leaps above KEVIN KEEGAN to punch clear for Canberra City.

IRONIC that the day after SBS conducted an exclusive interview from Greece with Aussie export, JIM PATIKAS two people connected with the AEK club were convicted.

They being an ex-AEK player George Rigas now with Kavala and Yannis Chysostomos an AEK Athens official.

■ ■ ■

BLACKTOWN CITY have appointed Barry Davis as their media relations officer. His task will be to keep the media up-to-date with information about the players, team line-ups, injuries and day-to-day events affecting the Demons. He can be reached on 605 7308 until 3pm each day.

IT looks as though both Canberra City and Dumbarton have lost out on the John Bourke saga. With just one round left to play in the Scottish first division at the end of April, Dumbarton slipped to fourth on goal difference, and for the first time this season lost the possibility of promotion to the premier league.

This means that Canberra has been necessarily deprived of an essential striker, who should have his first game in the NSL in the Sydney Croatia — Canberra clash. Also, Dumbarton has missed promotion, which was the only reasons for keeping Bourke until the end of the season.

■ ■ ■

CANBERRA fans irate over the constant omission of Anthony Franken from the various Socceroo squads are about to organise a mammoth petition to Socceroo boss Frank Arok.

Franken has been in superb form for the national capital outfit this season. In fact had Franken not been playing for Canberra it is highly likely they would not have a single point this season let alone be through to the quarter finals of the Nanda Cup.

As one Canberra wag put it "if Manis Lamond is worth \$32,000 Anthony Franken could not be bought by the Bank of England".

THE GLOVES ARE OFF WITH TERRY GREEDY

F.A. CUP FINAL IS THE MECCA OF FOOTBALL

NEXT Saturday sees the completion of the English Soccer season with the playing of the Football Association Cup Final at Wembley.

The F.A. Cup Final must surely be the biggest annual event on the sporting calendar with people from all round the world glued to their television sets.

The all-Mersyside clash between Liverpool and Everton will add even more spice to what is always an exciting event.

Both teams are the undisputed leaders of British Soccer, having had regular success on the domestic and overseas scenes. Liverpool have dominated British Soccer for years but more recently, with the appointment of Howard Kendall as manager, Everton threw down a challenge to Liverpool's supremacy.

Support for both teams is tremendous so the atmosphere at Wembley will be unbelievable as both sets of supporters urge their teams to victory.

As both sides love to attack, and indeed possess the best striking combinations in Britain, the game



should produce free-flowing end-to-end Soccer.

On many occasions Cup Finals tend to turn into a defensive stalemate with teams not confident enough to risk pushing forward.

This year's finalists know no other way to play than to go forward at every opportunity... so the final should be a memorable game.

Rumour has it that Jeff Fenech's next opponent could be Peter Raskopoulos (if he can make the weight) after his display at

training the other night.

"Skop" is certainly playing with a lot more enthusiasm this season. His distribution from the midfield is excellent with his long passes to front men invariably leading to scoring chances. Teams who are able to nullify his contribution to the game find the Olympic front line is less effective and are well on the way to winning.

A broken leg in Holland during the world tour in 1984 interrupted Skop's bid to establish himself in the national team. But on present form, he appears to be the ideal replacement for Joe Watson as the midfield play-maker.

they only had to watch the Nanda Cup game between St George and Blacktown.

Even the once-solid defence of St George has taken on a brittle appearance as chances are squandered at the other end in front of our opponents' goal.

Blacktown's willingness to work off the ball showed up the deficiencies of the Saints' marking.

The teamwork that has been the cornerstone of our success in recent years is sadly missing.

We could certainly do with Robbie Slater up front again. What a shame he was not retained for this year. Even with the purchase of so many players this season, it is obvious a replacement has not been found. Robbie had a superb game and his good work was rewarded with a goal that obviously pleased him, judging by his reaction.

The statement by Jim Patikas on Soccerama related to game-fixing in Greece has since been verified with charges being laid against two people with AEK connections.



ANDY KOZKA

It's unfortunate when sport reaches the stage where money determines the outcome of a game rather than teamwork and skills. Fortunately things have not reached that stage in Australia.

During the Merlion Cup in Singapore, gambling on games was rife.

People would bet on who won the toss; who got the first free kick, throw-in, corner, goalkick and so on.

Approaches were made to some members of our team to have results fixed in the preliminary rounds.

The offers were very tempting but none was accepted and we eventually went on to win the tournament.

In Europe, bribery claims are commonplace.

Let's hope the same does not occur in our league as teams become desperate to secure a place in the new set-up next year.

Andrew Koczka was involved in a car accident the other morning and will be missing from the St George team for a few weeks.

Koczka was in the back of his milk van when a car went into him. He ended up on the front seat of the car that hit him.

Since the incident, Andy has received some good advice from his coach and is having a safety harness made for further excursions into the back of his milk-truck!

See you next week

Terry Greedy

SLATER MAKES THE DEMONS CLICK

BY ALAN VEST

THEY say one man doesn't make a team and there is no doubt about that.

But, the last couple of Blacktown City games have shown that Robbie Slater has certainly caused havoc to two of the supposedly strongest defences in the league, Sydney City and St George.

He's been the main instigator in Blacktown's good performances. Not only is he quick but he is strong as well and although he probably doesn't score as many goals as he should, gets into some great positions creating opportunities for other players.

I would say he has got to be a strong contender for national honours as he's certainly the form player at the moment.

Overall, though, Robbie has been in dynamic form, it's been a real team effort from Blacktown and Casey de Bruin should be proud the way they're playing.

He's got together a good blend of youth and experience and they're looking a team who could take

Blacktown City to the glory they've deserved.

They pride themselves on representing Blacktown and the district and have been prudent in developing their club and ground to become a club to be taken seriously.



CASEY DE BRUIN

All that needs to be done now is for the local public to really get behind the team and if that happens, who knows they could become the team of the year.

STAN IS OUT AFTER ONLY FOUR GAMES

AFTER only four matches in the NSW Skypak State League, Warringah Freshwater and coach Stan Ackerley have parted company.

BY DAVID JACK

He has been replaced by former Apia Leichhardt National League coach Fil Bottalico.

After resigning, Ackerley refused to say anything about the reasons for his sudden departure.

"Just say it was for personal reasons," said Ackerley. The club trotted out a similar quote.

Ackerley was one of the finest full-backs to wear an Australian jersey. He really reached his

peak during the qualifying matches for the 1970 World Cup when the Manchester-born left-back had several outstanding performances for Australia here and overseas.

Coaching Warringah was not easy. With the Italian-supported Freshwater moving in to form the new Warringah-Freshwater club, last year's team was just about annihilated.

"At the most, we now have three of last year's team. We signed 12 new players, including eight with National League ex-

perience," said general secretary Jim Scane.

That mass raid on the transfer market did not produce the desired effect as Warringah lost three of their first four games and conceded 11 goals.



JAY O'ROURKE

Among this season's newcomers are Dominic Giannoni, Alex and Jim Bottalico, Barry Walker, Jay O'Rourke and John Davies.

THE NANDA CUP SHOCKS



DARK HORSE IS AVALA

DARK horses Avala are the new leaders in the Skypak State League and although there has been very little said about their team build up it is not surprising when you think about the man in charge, coach John Djourajevic.

John was a very good player, brought here by Rale Rasic a few years ago and played with Marconi. Injuries curtailed his career, but over the past year or so he has gone about his transition to coaching in the usual unassuming manner.

He's been a regular on our coaching courses, and successfully completed his level III coaching late last year. He was on the coaching staff at Canterbury last year. But this is his first assignment as the No.1. Knowing John and his knowledge and thoughts on the game and his approach to coaching it looks a good appointment by Avala, and could be the start of big things for them and for John Djourajevic.

THE EUROPEAN CUP FINAL

THE BIG ONE — BARCA AND BUCHAREST BATTLE IT OUT!

ALLAN HARRIS, assistant coach to Terry Venables said it all prior to Barcelona's win over Juventus in the European Cup quarter-final tie, "This is what we have been aiming for over the two years we've been in Barcelona.

BY FRANK COLETTA

"This is the game for us."

Certainly it is and the interest in Spain, more to the point, Seville is beyond equal.

Yes the European Cup Final is being played on Barcelona's door-step in Seville, so what price Barcelona?

Romania's champions, Steau Bucharest face an awesome challenge. Something akin to Liverpool's in the 1984 European Cup Final when they met AS Roma in Rome... and won 4-2 on penalties after the game remained deadlocked 1-1.

Bucharest and Barcelona have met twice previously. In 1977-78 they met in the first round of the UEFA Cup.

In the First Leg, Steau triumphed 3-1 in Bucharest but were then hammered into submission 5-1 at the grand Nou Camp stadium in Barcelona.

The other occasion was some years previous in 1971-72 in the Cup Winners' Cup again in the first round.

Bucharest knocked out the Barcelona side on the away goals rule.

Bucharest won 1-0 at home and were beaten 2-1

in Spain but their goal away from home got them into the next round.

Much has changed since then as current Rumanian national coach, Mircea Lucescu said. "Steau is without doubt our best side in the country and a lot has changed since their last meeting with Barca, they are better.

"They form a sort of compact block and this comes from working together for the Army side. Yes they are 'owned' by the army. The brains of their outfit is Ladislau Boloni."

Steau is the star side in Rumania, with 10 League titles and 14 FA Cup victories under their illustrious belts.

Their 'twelfth man' so to speak though is their beloved stadium in Bucharest, they are near unbeatable there.

That's where they rolled Vejle with Allan Simonsen, the Hungarians Honved and finally the much heralded Belgian champs, Anderlecht.

Manager Emeric Jenei says, "It would be a great bonus if we could play such a big match on our home ground, we could beat any team 10-0 there."

Danish international and former Barcelona



Pichi Alonso celebrates his semi-final goal against Gothenburg.

star, Allan Simonsen gives his thoughts on the team that knocked out his side in the first round.

"Steau is a well-equipped side, a dour and hard defence and a side that plays much like the English style where they harry, battle and pressurise all over the field.

"But they play so well at home because of their stadium and the people behind them. In Seville, with only one game, Barca should dominate. I'm certain that the Sanchez Rizjuan Stadium is very much like the Nou Camp and it will be packed with 'blaugrana' (Barcelona fans). I wouldn't miss this match, this spectacular on television for anything. I'd rather be at the match and I hope I don't have to suffer the tension as I did when Barca met Gothenburg of Sweden."

Simonsen names Boloni along with Dumitru Piturca, Camataru and Lacatus as their players to watch.

Vice-president of the club, Mircea Pascu says, "we have usurped the deeds of Dinamo Bucharest and University Craiova with a lot of patience. To reach the European Cup Final is an achievement in itself."

Steau's star, Boloni is equipped with the skill and class that could upset the favourites. His biggest thrill to date was to take Rumania to the 1984 European Championship in France.

At 32 he confesses: "I've learnt to play without the impulsion of before, now I'm much more mature."

"For us to reach the semi-finals was an achievement in itself but the Final is something else. We've made it and we are satisfied with that. Anything beyond it is a bonus."

STRIKER, Steve Archibald conducts.



TERRY VENABLES the Barcelona manager (left) discusses plans with Allan Harris.



JULIO ALBERTO

Ruben Sosa.
But Barca's English manager Terry Venables is certain to ensure his players forget the loss as his team prepares for the final on May 8.

Barcelona made heavy weather of getting to the final however. Firstly they met Sparta Prague of Czechoslovakia and grabbed a surprise 2-1 win in Prague. But the Prague side quickly turned that around with a 1-0 win at the Nou Camp. Barca going through on away goals.

The second round saw them meet another heavy in FC Porto of Portugal.

This was another struggle that squeezed Barca one step closer.

Next was the proposed final of the European Cup, that came two steps too early when Juventus were drawn against Barcelona.

In the first match a goal by Julio Alberto gave Barca a 1-0 lead to take to Turin. There Juventus were at their creating best with Michel Platini in sterling form.

If it was not for the



BARCELONA captain, SCHUSTER.



STEAU BUCHAREST line-up just weeks before the big match. In the photo are their noted players such as Barbulescu, Bumbescu, Belodedici, Boloni, Stoica, Balint, Lacatus and Piturca.



EUROPEAN
CUP

were gone. They scored a shock goal on the half-hour when a searching cross from the left was headed across goal by Steve Archibald who was delighted to find Juve 'keeper Stefano Tacconi patting it into his goal.

Juve came out and levelled prior to half-time through Platini but Barca held out to meet Gothenburg in the semi-finals.

They were given a right royal Swede bashing there. 3-0 went the scoreline to the home side and Barca seemed on the way out again against rank outsiders.

To their credit they got out of gaol in the second leg, winning that 3-0. The aggregate score remained the same even after extra-time and penalties were needed to settle the tie. Barca won 5-4.

poor finishing of young Pacione in for the suspended Aldo Serena, missing three chances, Barca

RUSSIA — CAN THEY BEAT THEIR FLOP SYNDROME?

FOR too long now the Russian national team has promised much but has inexplicably failed to deliver.

Russian manager Eduard Malofeyev believes this time that if his highly talented players can cure the so called 'travel sickness' then they can become Champions of the world.

Boasting he claims: "We are already World Champions in terms of results. Unfortunately most of our wins are in friendly internationals."

Explaining their poor World Cup finals results he says: "Generally we don't play well outside our home. We achieved memorable results such as wins in Brazil and England, but as for Mexico we must come to terms with the altitude. Firstly though we will try to improve our away form with a series of games away from home."

The Soviets began poorly and had to overcome their lackadaisical start to qualify with the dazzling Danes from European Group Six.

A goal from Eire's Mickey Walsh beat them in Dublin first up. They still hadn't gotten into gear by their next match in Norway where they drew 1-1 with the home side. Litovchenko answering a Thoresen penalty.

Against Switzerland they managed only a 2-2 draw. Gavrilov and Demianenko the scorers after it seemed the Swiss champion Andre Egli might finish them off.

Two points from three games and the campaign seemed on the surface a disaster. But what had to remembered was the fact that all games were away from home.

The next match was at home and Russia belied their previous poor form with a 4-0 battering of Switzerland. Oleg Protasov and Kondratiev grabbing two each.

Then it was time for the meeting with Denmark. In possibly the best qualifying match of the 1986

BY FRANK COLETTA

World Cup the Danes won 4-2. Freben Elkjaer and Michael Laudrup scoring twice. Whilst Russia's golden boy Protasov scored again along with Gotsmanov.

During 1985 they played 14 games, losing only two. Goalkeeper Renat Dasaev ranks among the best in the world.

If sweeper Aleksander Chivadze plays, the defence will be very tight.

Fjodor Cherenkov is a midfield player of great quality and vision who also has the ability to score goals. Up front few strikers will be able to match Oleg Protasov of Dnepr, whose total of 33 League goals is a Russian record.

The 22-year-old is a star now more than a star of the future, one who could set the World Cup alight this Northern Hemisphere summer.

He clearly enjoys what he is best at doing — scoring goals — and at times seems to be teasing defenders with his control and turn of pace. To many he seems a bit casual and on the occasion he'll 'crack up' when things are not going his way.

Along with Michael Laudrup of Denmark and Rumania's George Hagi, he is the most promising player on the European scene.

Protasov made his international debut in 1984 as a substitute in an away friendly match against the West Germans.

The Soviets lost 2-1 but Protasov was well and truly on the right track.

Picture this if you will. England's champion goalkeeper, Peter Shilton sprawled on the Wembley turf face first, seemingly at war with everyone around him. He then rises to his feet and angrily delivers a pushing punt to the ball that was nestled in the back of his net.

Protasov was the goalthief that brought this emotion from the emotionless.

But Protasov although twice scoring in two substitute appearances still had not convinced Eduard Malofeyev that he was

good enough to wear the red shirt of his country on a permanent basis.

Although 1985 was the year of Michel Platini, Oleg Protasov was not far behind.

He grabbed eight goals in full internationals, five coming in World Cup games. Along with this came the Russian record for goalscoring with 35 goals in 34 games, one more than the previous record held by Simonian, and just at the tender age of 21!

Now for Mexico. Will it be the right scene for Protasov to blossom? Is he still too young and inexperienced to succeed against the world's best defenders? Will he get the support he needs in order to succeed from his team-mates?

Only time will tell....

Protasov is not Russia's only front-line weapon however. We mustn't forget 32-year-old former European Footballer of the Year, Oleg Blokhin.

Although he no longer possesses the dazzling speed of five years ago he still has the experience, skill, vision and cunning to destroy any defence as he has demonstrated in

European competition this year for Kiev.

The combination of Blokhin and Protasov could well be the equal of Elkjaer-Laudrup, Rummenigge-Schuster, Hateley-Lineker and Rossi-Altabelli.

Emerging from their winter break, Russia will need time to recapture match sharpness and fitness along with best form something that was sadly lacking in their 2-0 loss to Spain.

My View

They should be well prepared by kick-off time in Mexico. Properly trained and rested their strength might be the actual familiarisation of the team players with one another. Unlike many other countries they are together in the same league and the national squad has changed little. They should press France and Hungary hard in Group C and should qualify for the second round. It is doubtful whether they'll get further than the quarter-finals.



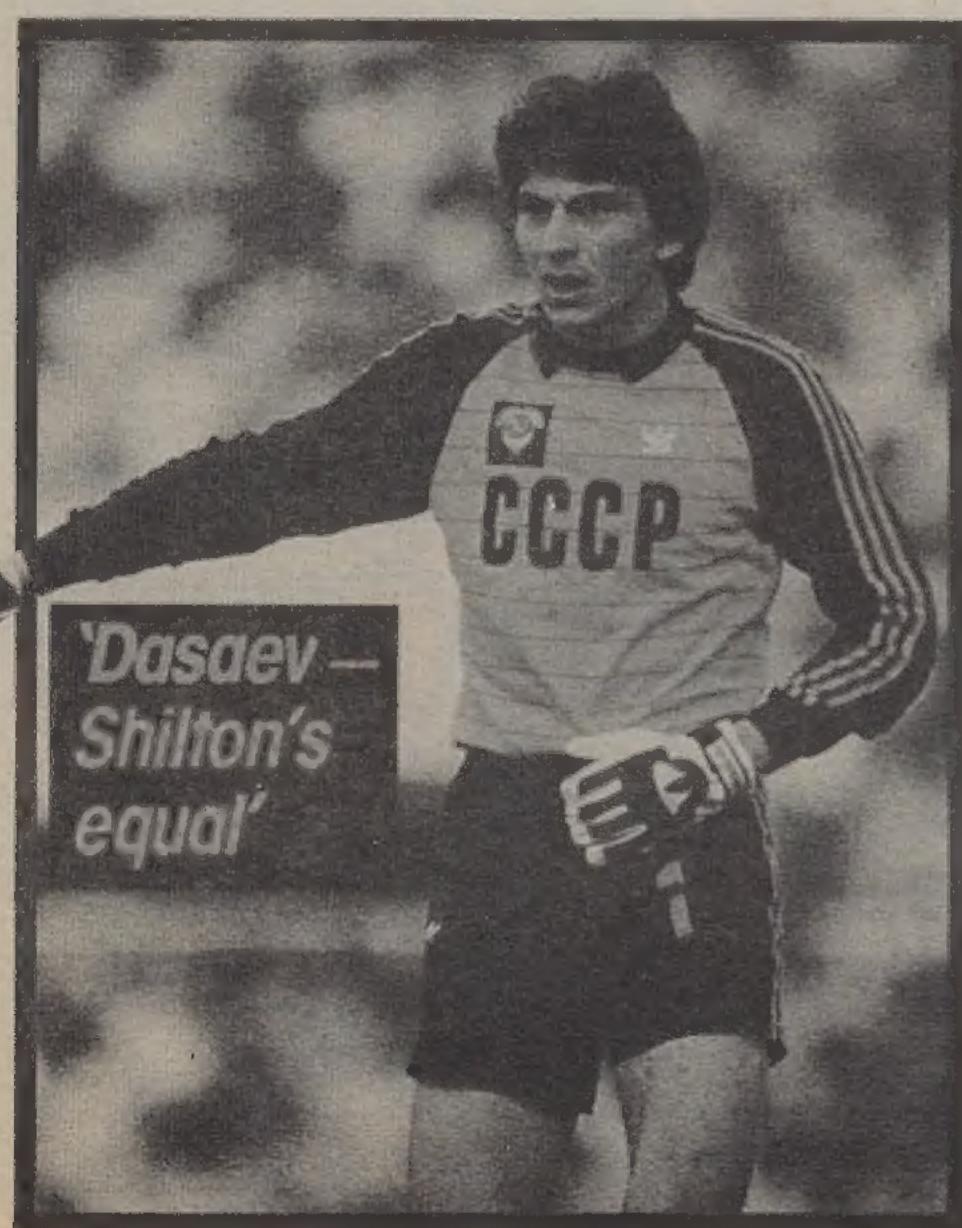
35-year-old OLEG BLOKHIN in action during the 1982 World Cup Finals as he charges away from Belgian defender, Renquin.



THE Russian side lines-up prior to the 1-0 victory over Norway.



ALEXANDER CHIVADZE, one of the Soviet's sterling defenders.



VLADIMIR BESSONOV is a delighted man after scoring against Belgium.

GOALKEEPERS

Renat Dasaev (Spartak Moscow)

Mikhail Mikhailov (Dynamo Kiev)

Tengiz Suleikidze (Dynamo Tbilisi)

Aleksander Chivadze (Dynamo Tbilisi)

Aleksander Bubnov (Spartak Moscow)

Anatoly Demianenko (Dynamo Kiev)

Vladimir Bessonov (Dynamo Kiev)

Nikolai Larinov (Zenith Leningrad)

Oleg Kuznetsov (Dynamo Kiev)

DEFENDERS

Gennady Morozov (Spartak Moscow)

Sergei Batach (Dynamo Kiev)

Tengiz Suleikidze (Dynamo Tbilisi)

Aleksander Chivadze (Dynamo Tbilisi)

Aleksander Bubnov (Spartak Moscow)

Anatoly Demianenko (Dynamo Kiev)

Vladimir Bessonov (Dynamo Kiev)

Nikolai Larinov (Zenith Leningrad)

Oleg Kuznetsov (Dynamo Kiev)

Fjodor Cherenkov (Spartak Moscow)

Sergei Akimov (Dynamo Minsk)

Andrei Zymantobich (Dynamo Minsk)

Aleksander Savarov (Dynamo Kiev)

Sergei Gotsmanov (Dynamo Minsk)

Eduard Malofeyev (Dynamo Kiev)

Ivanov (Dynamo Kiev)

Georgi Kondratiev (Dynamo Minsk)

Gennadi Litovchenko (Dnepr)

Sergei Rodionov (Spartak Moscow)

Here is the World Cup draw at a glance.

Group A: Italy, Bulgaria, S. Korea, Argentina.

Group B: Mexico, Belgium, Iraq, Paraguay. **Group C:** France, Hungary, Canada, Russia. **Group D:** Brazil, N. Ireland, Algeria, Spain. **Group E:** W. Germany, Scotland, Denmark, Uruguay. **Group F:** Poland, Portugal, Morocco, England.

CAN THE MAGYARS BE MAGNIFICENT AGAIN?

HUNGARY's World Cup campaign by Frank Coletta.

ANY team that can knock off Brazil 3-0 has got to have something going for them and that is certainly the case when one contemplates the chances of Hungary in this year's World Cup.

The result made plenty of people sit up and take notice. So is football about to see a revival of the magnificent Magyars?

World Cup coach Gorgy Mezey is convinced his team will perform very well in Mexico.

He refuses to think of the past glories and the long-retired stars.

"We have to educate our public who believe you need a line-up of stars to be successful. There no longer are the days of Puskas, they are long gone," says Mezey.

"The Hungarian people cannot understand our lack of success over the past two decades. I believe we can do much better in Mexico than in recent World Cups."

"The players agree we are in a new era of football in Hungary, retaining our traditional skill and flair but adding pace, strength and stamina."

For all the returning to the glory days there has been the problems. The squad's most experienced player, captain Tibor Nyilasi, was due to be operated on a back injury similar to that which caused central defender Antal Roth to be sent home from the training camp in Benidorm, Spain, in January.

And, while Roth was recuperating, left-back Zoltan Peter underwent an operation on a cartilage injury that he had kept quiet for 18 months.

Also fringe player Ferenc Meszaros was not considered for the big match against Brazil because he is injury-prone, this time having a leg injury.

Nyilasi, who has played 70 matches and scored 32 goals since making his national team debut in 1975, was having injections for the pain caused by a displacement of bone.

To their actual campaign and as the Western world sorted out their bribery scandals and form slumps, the new-look Magyars were on their way to World Cup finals number nine.

Austria and Holland, Hungary's relevant rivals in Group Five, both failed to see the danger signals, fearing each other more than a nation too long reliant on past glories and long-gone stars.

Gyorgy Mezey the manager continues: "I told my players they had to adjust to the modern international game or continue playing their slow, clever football at club level... and stay at home."



HUNGARY 1986, looking for big things in Mexico.

"By the time we'd beaten Austria 3-1 at home, then shocked Holland by winning 2-1 in the Netherlands, we were in charge and they were scrambling for second place and a chance of making the play-off. We will shock many people providing our finishing matches our approach play."

Mezey who took over in July 1983 on a three-year contract, is jobless after the Cup unless the Hungarian F.A. are satisfied with his showing in Mexico.

A fine player with MTK Budapest, he graduated through the coaching stages of club football, the Under-21 side, the Olympic team and then the full national squad.

"Our League football lacked fighting spirit. I had to instil this in players who have the ability but did not have the steel for the game at this level. Our qualifying results indicate that I succeeded."

The recuperation of Nyilasi would appear to be crucial to Hungary's World Cup prospects.

The possible absence of Peter in Mexico, the long-striding defender from Zalaegerszeg, must also be a worry to Mezey.

Hungary attack the Czechoslovakian defence in a friendly match.

three matches.

The recoveries to beat Austria 3-1, Holland 2-1 and Cyprus 2-1 represented the first hat-trick of wins by Hungary for seven years.

Mezey brought increased determination and organisation, new ideas and moves.

Tests on players' physical capacities and state of health, a more demanding style including the style of head-on tackling.

By making nearly all the substitutions in his 26 matches before the Brazil game among the forward players Mezey naturally afforded greater mobility

and the creation of goal-scoring chances.

So with their meritorious win over Brazil, the Hungarians fuelled the belief that they could be the dark horses of the tournament.

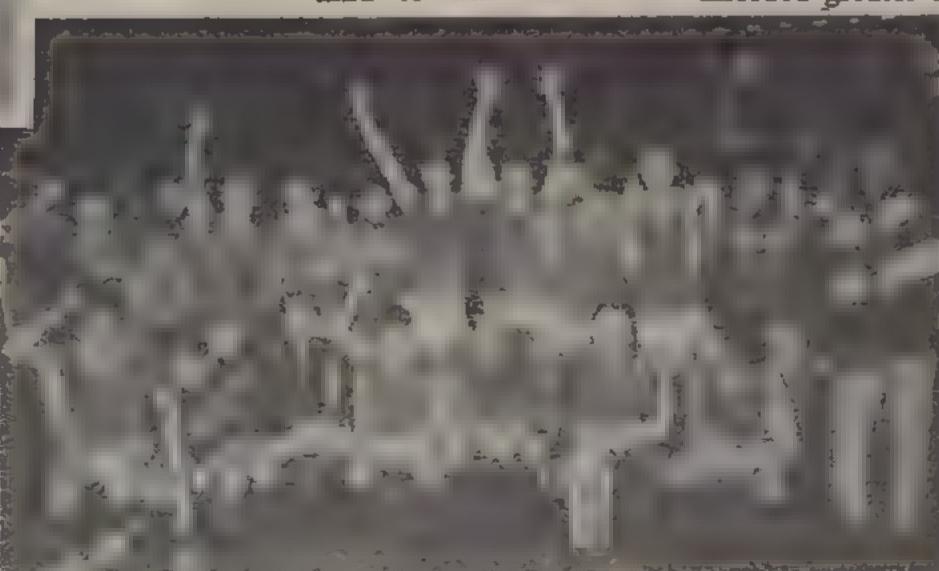
Excitement reached fever pitch in the city of Budapest for the big game as the F.A. received 300,000 applications for tickets!

The Nep Stadium was jammed with 70,000 who watched a superb display.

Mezey had the last word, "I was so proud of my players. There has not been such excitement about football in my country since the days of Puskas and those great games against England in the Fifties."

My View

Although their injury worries have been plentiful Hungary should have a near full-strength side come June. They should do well and truly push France as the top side in Group C. They should make the quarters and at the most the semis.



Hungary celebrate their World Cup qualification.

WOLLONGONG'S LATIN PROBLEM

WOLLONGONG CITY'S Uruguayan import Leon Arcosa, played in the youth team against St George on Saturday night after a week of high drama on the South Coast.

BY PHIL MURPHY

Wolves coach John Fleming has been criticised by a faction of the club board for having dropped Arcosa from the team which played Sydney Olympic in the Nanda Cup a week earlier.

Arcosa was dropped after turning up late for training and some directors claim Fleming should have fined Arcosa and not left him out of the team.

A source close to the board said some directors felt Arcosa hasn't been given a fair deal by Fleming.

They said the South American should be given at least one chance to perform in the senior team alongside countryman Saul Rivero.

Rivero joined the club before the start of the

Ampol Cup and Arcosa arrived from Uruguay for the second competition match against Blacktown.

Most supporters have been disappointed with Arcosa and the player himself has said he hasn't travelled all this way to play in the Youth League.

Fleming said he is being paid to coach the team and this includes team selection. "I have to choose the best players and I feel I did this for the St George game," Fleming said.

"I have had a talk with chairman Laurie Kelly about directors aiming criticism at me and I hope that is the end of it."

Fleming said he just wants to get on with the job of helping his team survive in the league this season.

"This type of thing doesn't do morale within the club any good at all," he said.

LIVERPOOL'S KENNY KING OF ENGLAND

KENNY DALGLISH is the king of English Soccer this week after his outstanding achievement in guiding Liverpool to yet another first division championship ... as player-manager.

This is Dalglish's first season as a manager and it has proved a remarkable baptism for the Scottish international.

Going into Saturday's matches, Everton and West Ham, the only other challengers, knew they had to win but, no matter what either did, there would be no catching Liverpool if Dalglish and his men won against Chelsea at Stamford Bridge.

That is exactly what Liverpool did, winning 1-0 and, to crown his excellent year, Dalglish himself scored the only goal.

In typically modest fashion, Dalglish said: "This is not just my success."

The credit must go to everyone connected with Liverpool."

There is still one huge mountain for Dalglish and Liverpool to scale. If they win the F.A. Cup at Everton's expense on Saturday, this will bring the rare double to Anfield.

Even the idolised Bill Shankly and Bob Paisley who managed Liverpool before Dalglish, could not achieve the double.

While Liverpool enjoyed the glory in England, Hearts, seemingly certain to win Scotland's Premier Division, slipped up in their final match at Dundee.

The Hearts needed only a draw to win the title and, with five minutes left, it was on when the score was 0-0.

Then Albert Kidd shocked Hearts with two goals. So Celtic, with a 5-0 win away to St Mirren, leapfrogged over the Tynecastle team to claim one more Premier Division championship.

It is interesting to note that Kidd, the player who tore the title away from Hearts, used to play for them!

Relegated from the English first division are West Brom, Birmingham

FA Cup preview continued from page 10



midfield and up front, we have been improving with every match."

Mexican-bound Everton defender, Gary Stevens is a shooting star.

It has been a meteoric rise to the top for the modest 22-year-old, who is quick to concede that his role within the all-conquering Everton line-up accelerated his promotion to Bobby Robson's England squad.

Stevens was a vital member of the Everton



Peter Reid himself says: "Everton are on the march thanks to the finest striking partnership in Britain. Graeme Sharp and Gary Lineker don't get the projection enjoyed

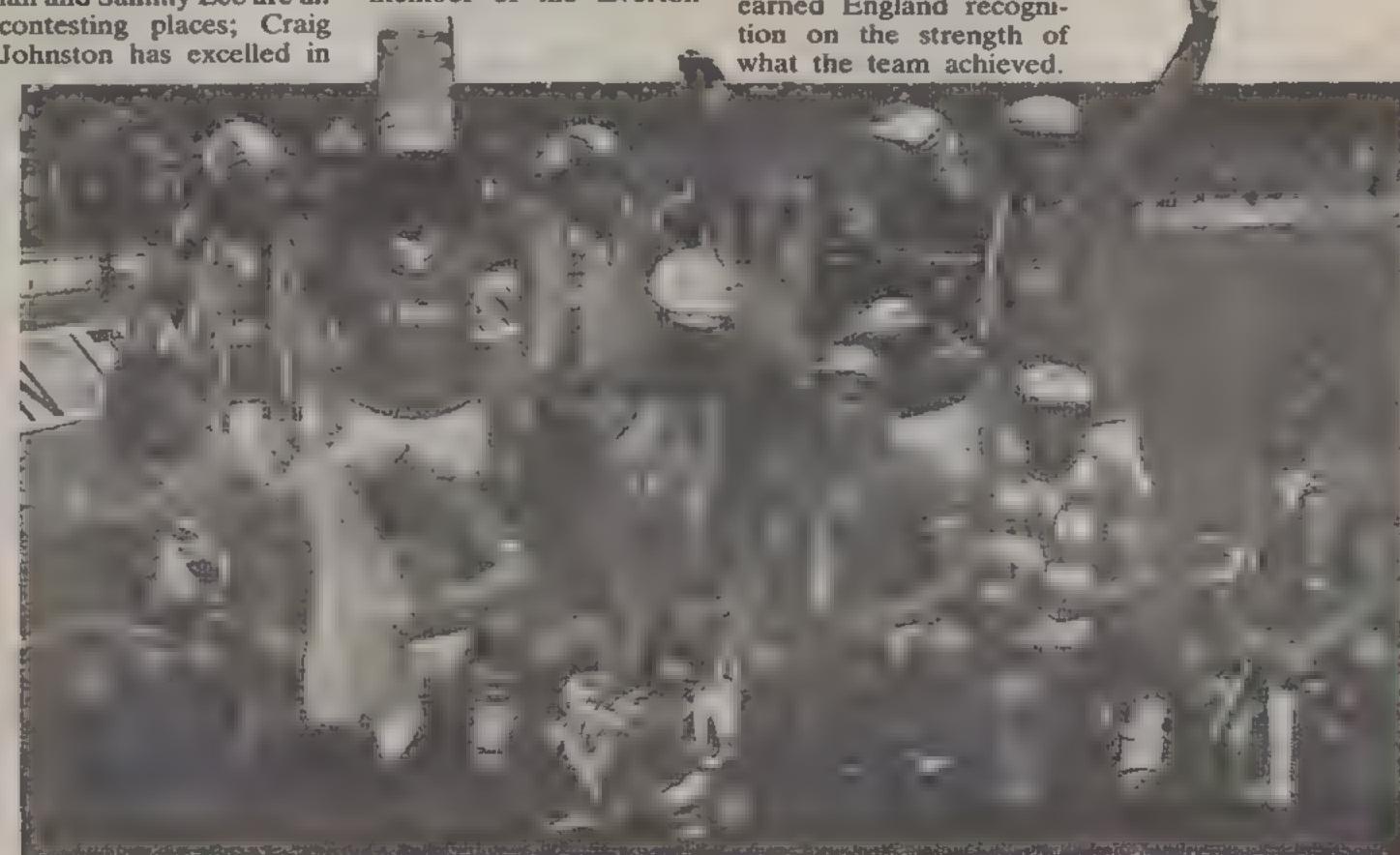
OPPOSING captains on Saturday, Kevin Ratcliffe, Everton (left) and the great one Kenny Dalglish, Liverpool (right).

by Ian Rush but they are the deadliest duo in the business — bar none.

"But credit also to Pat Van den Hauwe. Replacing the injured Derek Mountfield was not easy for the boss. But Pat has done well as the stand-in centre-half. Pat was one of our unsung heroes last season and again this season, but he's looked very comfortable alongside Kevin Ratcliffe and is surprisingly good in the air."

Both teams as ever are evenly matched but in an unrivalled FA Cup Final, Wembley will be bursting and buzzing.

Me? I'm going for a draw!



EVERTON celebrate their 1984 FA Cup win against Watford.

City and either Oxford or Ipswich.

They will be replaced by Norwich, Charlton and Wimbledon. Amazingly, Portsmouth, who dominated so much of the action in second division all year, flopped at the finish to fill fourth place — just missing promotion.

HOLLAND

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
PSV	31	25	5	1	88	17	55
Ajax	31	24	1	6	113	32	49
Feyenoord	29	19	3	7	67	38	41
Groningen	31	15	6	10	49	35	36
Den Bosch	31	13	10	8	49	36	36
	0-4	1-4	1-1	1-2	0-0	1-2	2-1
	2-3						

LIVERPOOL's KENNY DALGLISH strikes the championship winning blow away at Stamford Bridge as Liverpool beat Chelsea 1-0.



OLEG BLOKHIN celebrates Dynamo Kiev's 3-0 walloping of Atletico Madrid in the European Cup Winners' Cup Final.



DYNAMO KIEV from the Soviet Union played brilliantly in Lyon to win the European Cup Winners Cup Final, beating Atletico Madrid 3-0.

Soviet teams are reputed to be bad travellers and, indeed, have enjoyed few successes in European competition but you would never have thought so in Lyon.

Even though Kiev had to wait until the last five minutes to take their 1-0 lead to an emphatic 3-0 victory, they were always the better side and had far too much ability for the Spanish side.

Aleksander Zavarov headed the first goal after only five minutes. The other goals came from Oleg Blokhin (85 minutes) and Zadim Yevtushenko two minutes from time.

Blokhin, now very much a veteran, turned in a great performance, as if he wished to remind onlookers that he was crowned European Player of the Year 11 years ago.

The spectators were thrilled by the standard of football produced by the team from the Ukraine and even the 10,000 Spaniards who travelled to France for the match had to admit their team was second best.

Argentina's World Cup goalkeeper Ubaldo Fillol, could do nothing to halt the more skilful and penetrative Dynamo Kiev.

CROATIA-DEAKIN SOCCER CLUB INC.

wishes to announce to supporters and Soccer fans in the ACT

★ Saturday evening May 10

Soccer Night featuring

SKITNICE

with Croatian star LAPIC

Proceeds to sponsor Croatia team from Canberra in the national Croatian championship in Melbourne from November 7-11

Bookings and enquiries to the club . . . 81 6962

★ Sunday May 11 . . . Deakin Oval

Derby match with BELCONNEN kick off 3pm

Reserve match 1pm, under 18, 11am

SAINTS WILL BATTLE TO HOLD MARCONI

BY JOHN ECONOMOS

ST GEORGE next Sunday at the St George Stadium, will have their hands full to try to harness Marconi's wild gallop at the top of the League.

ALAN NIVEN FAREWELL

FORMER Socceroo Alan Niven will end his National League career at Hindmarsh Stadium in Adelaide next month.

The 30-year-old left-back has opted to quit the playing field to take up a coaching appointment with the Queensland Soccer Federation.

Niven has been appointed as the QSF's regional director of coaching in Bundaberg.

Although the appointment was announced last month, the QSF agreed to let Niven play four more matches with his club before moving north to take up the coaching appointment. The last of those four will be Lions match against Adelaide City at Hindmarsh on July 4.

Niven's decision to quit playing came as a major surprise to his club which has struggled for points early on this season.

Les Scheinflug's boys look in top form and little is allowed to stand in their way as they chase League points left and right.

St George so far this season just hasn't been able to put things in order

and their main deficiency despite numerous signings, is up front where the Goals Department looks bare.

The loss of flank-striker, Robbie Slater, has robbed the Saints of much width in their game.

The recent experimentation of Stewart Porter in the central midfield also hasn't been the answer and should be better off up front where he knows the game better.

Marconi so far has knocked in 11 goals whilst conceding only five, (the second best defensive record in the northern League).

Strike-power in David Lowe, Rod Brown, Mark Jankovics and even left midfielder, Peter Tredinnick, has made the Marconi Men dangerous opponents to all.

The little Lowe especially this season, looking sharper than ever before, will be as popular as an F.1-11 over Tripoli as he buzzes around the St George defence.

But Marconi itself is having some problems as two of their strikers, Mark Jankovics and Rod Brown are both in doubt for Sunday's clash.

Jankovics still has proved his fitness to Scheinflug and Brown is suffering from a knee injury.

Marconi's basic power lies in its industrious midfield where Ian Gray, Craig Mason and Peter

Tredinnick tackle all day and break down moves by their opponents.

St George has for a long time had an unsettled midfield and last week probably their best defensive worker, John O'Shea was dropped for the Wollongong away draw.

Craig Moffit normally a centre-back, has recently been saddled with midfield duties and the reliable David Skeen has been dropped out of the middle line back to fullback.

Saints just have to get more fire-power up front, not only to grab goals, but to also threaten intending defenders coming forward into attack.

The St George back-four last Saturday night in Wollongong was Skeen, Michael O'Shea, David Ratcliffe and Robbie O'Shea. All reliable soldiers in that department.

But as far as fire-power upfront, that area looks thread-bare.

In St George's last five matches, they have been able to hit the target only five times which accounts for their two draws and two losses.

Saints' striker, Graham Fletcher badly needs a target man with him in the box to run off him and wouldn't argue if a midfielder or two broke through in support when attacking.

On display in this match will be two goalkeepers of immense class and style.



DAVID RATCLIFFE, St. George

The Saints have Australia's World Cup man between the posts whilst the visitors have the stylistic acrobatic Bruce James.

The match will be decided by who ever wins the midfield battle and at this stage, on paper at least, it looks as if Marconi has a definite edge.

But be warned.

Only a few weeks when the Saints travelled to Sydney Olympic, it appeared they were going to be in for a thrashing.

ST GEORGE v MARCONI

AT THE ST GEORGE STADIUM

ON SUNDAY MAY 11

KICK-OFF 3PM



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FRANK AROK



TERRY GREEDY

BESTIC ST. ROCKDALE



DAVID LOWE



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THE QUEENSLAND REPORT

With Greg Russell

COME (BACK) AGAIN?

ON one day in Brisbane last week it would have only taken Dame Nellie Melba to announce another comeback to complete the hat-trick.

One morning paper carried a story of Jim Hermiston considering a return to the playing field; the other an article on Col Bennett pondering a comeback.

The pair were legendary as Lions' central defence during the late 70s.

After leaving the NSL scene three years ago, they are now back as the coaches of the two Queensland NSL sides. Hermiston is at City, Bennett at Lions.

But despite the speculation an actual return to the field for either seems a long way off.

Hermiston's case appears the most complicated. His playing contract is still held by local club North Star, where Hermiston played after quitting NSL.

He then left the club to take up his initial coaching appointment at City and now North Star want \$2,000 if Hermiston wants to play again.

"Admittedly we got Jim for nothing but we incurred expenses during his time with us. If City make a counter offer we would be prepared to listen," a North Star spokesman said.

The 38-year-old Scotsman revealed his comeback thoughts after City were thrashed 5-0 by Brunswick.

"We have some very good young defenders at the club but at times it's obvious they need an older head to help guide them on the park. You can't do everything from the bench," Hermiston said.

"Steve Perry has the experience for that role but he has been battling injury for the last few weeks. If I felt I could do a job I would definitely consider playing again."

City officials, who originally warmed to the idea of Hermiston returning to the field, went cold when the \$2,000 was mentioned.

Hermiston is now considering buying out his contract himself, for peace of mind if nothing else.

Bennett, 35, who returned to Lions only three weeks ago, revealed his comeback intentions after Lions crashed 2-0 to South Melbourne.

"I would have done better than half the guys out there against South Melbourne," he said.

"People might think I am silly saying I want to play, but I'm the only one who knows if I can do the job needed."

Bennett left Lions two years ago to take up a player-coach appointment with local intermediate league side Rochedale. He

continued to play until announcing his retirement after guiding Rovers to a grand final victory last season.

Lions still hold Bennett's playing contract but his comeback may not be as simple as just putting on an NSL shirt.

It is understood several directors within the club were far from impressed with Bennett's proposals and have expressed discontent about any player-coach set-up.

But the future results of both City and Lions could be the real determining

factors in either player's comebacks. If they suddenly start winning regularly, the ideas are likely to be shelved.

If they continue losing, then both coaches may have more to worry about than just their playing careers.

QUEENSLAND's Under 15 squad will be in good hands at the National Championships and Kodak Kids' trials in Canberra this week.

The Queensland Junior Soccer Council has broken new ground in sending a fully-qualified physiotherapist with the team.

He is Michael Dalglish, a former schoolboy Soccer player and State junior hockey rep.

Dalglish was appointed to the team to ensure the Queensland youngsters had the best chance of winning the tournament and making their claims for selection in the Australian squad to begin preparations for the Oceania qualifying section of the next World Under 16 titles.

"Soccer at this level has now become very professional and it was felt we needed to take the same approach. Sustained fitness is vital at national championship level and it is comforting to know our boys are in good hands," a QJSC spokesman said.

The Queensland squad spent a week of intensive training last week under coach Brian Jeffs and is hopeful of improving on last year's performance when the State finished only one point behind tournament winners, New South Wales.

for at least four weeks.

"It's tragic. I just can't believe it," Mount Gravatt coach Eric Thompson said.

"I would just love to have Harry for one full season without injury. I reckon there would be no midfielder who could touch him."

Thompson is hopeful Stewart will be back in time for the crucial run to the finals. But in the meantime the midfield responsibility will fall on Queensland squad player Martin Kirsopp, new signing Ken Swan and the ageless Craig Dickson.

After a hesitant start to the season, Mount Gravatt had started to edge towards the top of the table.

But Iain Fagan's North Star still looks the side to beat, while John Sime's Easts loom as the dark horses.

There are no XXXX League matches this weekend, because the Sunday had been set aside for the interstate match, now switched to June 1.

Most teams will welcome the weekend off to free their squads of nagging early season strains and knocks.

KNOCK, KNOCK FOR HARRY

MOUNT Gravatt midfielder Harry Stewart must be one of the unluckiest players in Queensland.

Stewart, the cousin of Lions NSL pair John and Russell Stewart, has been constantly dogged by injuries as he has attempted to match the Soccer feats of his relatives.

In the past there have been hamstrings, ankle knocks and even a car accident which left both his arms broken: in fact there has not been a season over the past five years that the 26-year-old has been free from injury.

But until last week, this season looked to be the one. Stewart, a Mount Gravatt player since he was four years old, seemed to escape any serious harm in the pre-season and was beginning to play with match-winning flair.

That was until he seriously injured his leg in a trial game against the Queensland Youth team.

Stewart went over on his leg and the full force of his fall tore ligaments and muscles down the entire leg.

The bone wasn't broken but hospital staff told the midfielder it may well have been for the amount of damage done. Stewart is expected to be on crutches

FULL STRENGTH YOUNG MAROONS

QUEENSLAND has named a powerful squad to defend its National Youth crown in Melbourne next week.

The 16-man squad includes many of the players who helped the young Maroons win last year's National Youth Championship, including star strikers Lindsay Dimes and Jarrod Austin.

The striking duo teamed to score nine goals in four games at last year's titles.

Brisbane Lions dominate the team with five players, although Dimes and Austin came to the club this season.

The Queensland squad is: Mark Goodman, Jarrod Austin, Lindsay Dimes, Nick Meredith, Robert Marinov (Lions), Alfie Catalano, James Hermiston, Graham Ross (Bris-

bane City), Cameron Pearce, Craig McColl (North Star), Damien Butler (Ipswich United), Anthony Sommerville (Grange Thistle), Domenic Towell (Mount Gravatt), Brian MacNicol (Rochedale), Colin Junna (Cairns), Neal Cotgrove (Townsville).

The side will be coached

CUP FORMAT IS A K.O.

QUEENSLAND's Ampol Cup knockout competition is set to go from strength to strength with another slight format alteration.

The QSF has turned the City qualifying section into a round robin tournament, a change which has been excitedly greeted by Brisbane-based clubs.

Under the new format, the 10 XXXX League, 10 intermediate League, three leading amateur clubs and the gold and Sunshine Coast representative teams will be divided into five groups of five teams.

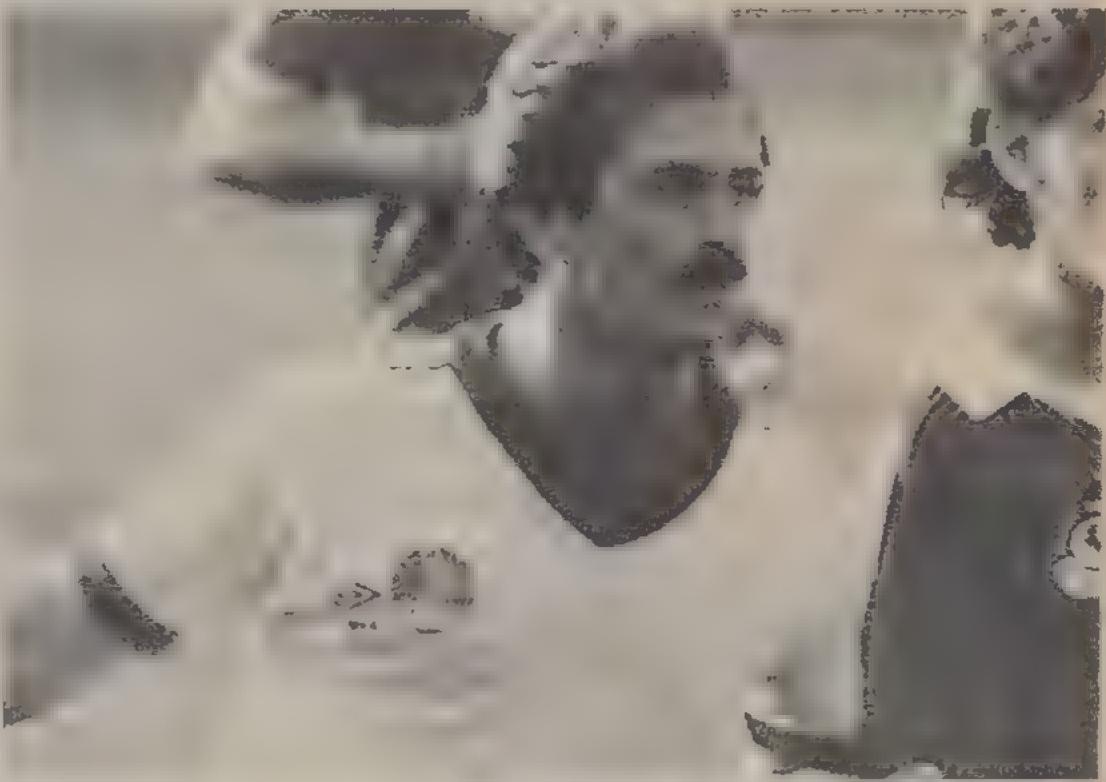
Each group will play a round robin and the group winner will advance to the quarter-finals.

The five city quarter-finalists will be joined by the three country qualifiers who were to be decided in tournaments involving 12 teams in three regional centres throughout the State last weekend.

Once the eight quarter-finalists are known the competition will revert to straight knockout, and the draw will be out of the hat — a concept adopted over the past two years and a further reason for the great success of the Ampol Cup.

The Cup and its sponsors have been associated with Queensland Soccer since 1959 and the competition has grown in importance each year. Unlike the other States, the Queensland Ampol Cup is staged throughout the season with key weekends set aside for all rounds. The final signals the start of the major late season games.

Last season North Star won the Cup for the second successive year when they crushed Croatian-supported Sunnyside in a memorable final. The match attracted a huge crowd which again prompted Ampol Petroleum (Qld) to re-confirm and increase their sponsorship.



ABOVE: John Stewart.

ANYONE'S JOB

THE Queensland goalkeeper position is wide open for the annual interstate clash against New South Wales at Perry Park on June 1.

Maroons coach Bruce Stowell has delayed naming a replacement in his state squad for Brisbane City keeper Kim Wishart, who recently broke his leg.

Wishart has been the

No.1 in the Queensland team for the past four years. His understudy last season was Lions keeper Wayne Evans.

On that, Evans should have the edge over others to get the nod on June 1. But he recently lost his NSL position at Lions and Stowell may now rethink.

Evans' replacement in Col Bennett's team was former Acacia Ridge keeper Rob Farrow.

Farrow is leading the contenders to start training with the Queensland team this week.

Farrow was included in the Queensland squad two years ago but broke his scaphoid during training.

He is yet to be proved at top level, which may go against him when Stowell picks his final team.

While Farrow looms as the likely Wishart replacement in the squad, others cannot be ruled out.

Bobby Cox, elevated to the NSL squad following Wishart's injury, now has the chance to push his claims and several XXXX League goalkeepers no doubt consider they could have State squad claims.

North Star have Noel

Lord and Dave Gallagher battling the No.1 shirt, while Ipswich United have two good keepers in Paul McClure and John Bennett.

Olympic's Gordon Otto has been in good form this season as has Mark Davis.

The heir apparent to the jersey was probably seen to be Mount Gravatt's Stu Woodruffe, but in an unlucky twist of fate, the 21-year-old has hit the worst form patch of his stunning career — just when the best opportunity to grab the State spot arose.

Stowell this week is expected to bring in his 18-man squad for regular training.

mite FOR THOSE WHO TAKE THEIR SPORT SERIOUSLY

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RUSSIA — CAN THEY BEAT THEIR FLOP SYNDROME?

FOR too long now the Russian national team has promised much but has inexplicably failed to deliver.

Russian manager Eduard Malofeyev believes this time that if his highly talented players can cure the so called 'travel sickness' then they can become Champions of the world.

Bostingly he claims: "We are already World Champions in terms of results. Unfortunately most of our wins are in friendly internationals."

Explaining their poor World Cup finals results he says: "Generally we don't play well outside our home. We achieved memorable results such as wins in Brazil and England, but as for Mexico we must come to terms with the altitude. Firstly though we will try to improve our away form with a series of games away from home."

The Soviets began poorly and had to overcome their lackadaisical start to qualify with the dazzling Danes from European Group Six.

A goal from Eire's Mickey Walsh beat them in Dublin first up. They still hadn't gotten into gear by their next match in Norway where they drew 1-1 with the home side. Litovchenko answering a Thoresen penalty.

Against Switzerland they managed only a 2-2 draw, Gavrilov and Demianenko the scorers after it seemed the Swiss champion Andre Egli might finish them off.

Two points from three games and the campaign seemed on the surface a disaster. But what had to remembered was the fact that all games were away from home.

The next match was at home and Russia belied their previous poor form with a 4-0 battering of Switzerland. Oleg Protasov and Kondratiev grabbing two each.

Then it was time for the meeting with Denmark. In possibly the best qualifying match of the 1986

BY FRANK COLETTA

World Cup the Danes won 4-2. Preben Elkjaer and Michael Laudrup scoring twice. Whilst Russia's golden boy Protasov scored again along with Gotsmanov.

The quality of the goals scored were of the highest bracket. Protasov's being absolutely magical struck from some 25 metres after a build-up on the left.

Now the Russians were in serious trouble, five games played and only four points.

Then came the real turn around. The last three games all at home and every one saw the home side victorious.

A 1-0 revengeful triumph over Denmark, Protasov the scorer. 2-0 over Eire, again Protasov on the scoresheet with Fjodor Cherenkov.

Finally the match that clinched their Mexican berth against Norway. Kondratiev giving Russia a 1-0 victory.

Malofeyev continues: "We showed our capabilities during the 2-0 win over England at Wembley. West Germany were beaten 1-0 in Moscow, but then I was unhappy with our form when we lost 1-0 away to Mexico."

"We have players who can dictate games and score goals. We have confidence and overall a strong and versatile squad. Perhaps we can carry our home form over to South America."

"If we do, then shocks are in store for the experts."

Traditionally though, Russia promise much, posture a lot and flop. Since winning the first European Nations Cup Final, beating Yugoslavia 2-1 in 1960, they've lost two subsequent Finals, to Spain in 1964 and West Germany in 1972.

World Cups have brought little success, the highlight being a semi-final berth in 1966, lost to West Germany.

Yet Russia produces world class players who pose awesome problems when tackled on their own soil.

During 1985 they played 14 games, losing only two. Goalkeeper Renat Dasaev ranks among the best in the world.

If sweeper Aleksander Chivadze plays, the defence will be very tight.

Fjodor Cherenkov is a midfield player of great quality and vision who also has the ability to score goals. Up front few strikers will be able to match Oleg Protasov of Dnepr, whose total of 33 League goals is a Russian record.

The 22-year-old is a star now more than a star of the future, one who could set the World Cup alight this Northern Hemisphere summer.

He clearly enjoys what he is best at doing — scoring goals — and at times seems to be teasing defenders with his control and turn of pace. To many he seems a bit casual and on the occasion he'll 'crack up' when things are not going his way.

Along with Michael Laudrup of Denmark and Rumania's George Hagi, he is the most promising player on the European scene.

Protasov made his international debut in 1984 as a substitute in an away friendly match against the West Germans.

The Soviets lost 2-1 but Protasov was well and truly on the right track.

Picture this if you will. England's champion goalkeeper, Peter Shilton sprawled on the Wembley turf face first, seemingly at war with everyone around him. He then rises to his feet and angrily delivers a punishing punt to the ball that was nestled in the back of his net.

Protasov was the goal-thief that brought this emotion from the emotionless.

But Protasov although twice scoring in two substitute appearances still had not convinced Eduard Malofeyev that he was



35-year-old OLEG BLOKHIN in action during the 1982 World Cup Finals as he charges away from Belgian defender, Renquin.

good enough to wear the red shirt of his country on a permanent basis.

Although 1985 was the year of Michel Platini, Oleg Protasov was not far behind.

He grabbed eight goals in full internationals, five coming in World Cup games. Along with this came the Russian record for goalscoring with 35 goals in 34 games, one more than the previous record held by Simonian, and just at the tender age of 21!

Now for Mexico. Will it be the right scene for Protasov to blossom? Is he still too young and inexperienced to succeed against the world's best defenders? Will he get the support he needs in order to succeed from his team-mates?

Only time will tell.... Protasov is not Russia's only front-line weapon however. We mustn't forget 32-year-old former European Footballer of the Year, Oleg Blokhin.

Although he no longer possesses the dazzling speed of five years ago he still has the experience, skill, vision and cunning to destroy any defence as he has demonstrated in

European competition this year for Kiev.

The combination of Blokhin and Protasov could well be the equal of Elkjaer-Laudrup, Rummenigge-Schuster, Hateley-Lineker and Rossi-Altabelli.

Emerging from their winter break, Russia will need time to recapture match sharpness and fitness along with best form something that was sadly lacking in their 2-0 loss to Spain.

My View

They should be well prepared by kick-off time in Mexico. Properly trained and rested their strength might be the actual familiarisation of the team players with one another. Unlike many other countries they are together in the same league and the national squad has changed little. They should press France and Hungary hard in Group C and should qualify for the second round. It is doubtful whether they'll get further than the quarter-finals.



THE Russian side line-up prior to the 1-0 victory over Norway.



ALEXANDER CHIVADZE, one of the Soviet's sterling performers.



Did Shilton's equal?



VLADIMIR BESSONOV is a delighted man after scoring against Belgium.

GOALKEEPERS	Roman Ovtcharov (Spartak Moscow)	Sergei Antonov (Dynamo Kiev)
DEFENDERS	Tengiz Sulakvelidze (Dynamo Tbilisi)	Alexander Chivadze (Dynamo Tbilisi)
	Aleksander Bubnov (Spartak Moscow)	Anatoly Demchenko (Dynamo Kiev)
	Vladimir Bessonov (Dynamo Kiev)	Nikolai Larinov (Zenit Leningrad)
	Oleg Kuznetsov (Dynamo Kiev)	Oleg Protasov (Dnepr)

Here is the World Cup draw at a glance.
Group A: Italy, Bulgaria, S. Korea, Argentina.
Group B: Mexico, Belgium, Iraq, Paraguay. **Group C:** France, Hungary, Canada, Russia. **Group D:** Brazil, N. Ireland, Algeria, Spain. **Group E:** W. Germany, Scotland, Denmark, Uruguay, **Group F:** Poland, Portugal, Morocco, England.

COMMONWEALTH GETS THE BALL ROLLING

THE 1986 Commonwealth Bank Soccer Cup is well underway with most round one matches already completed.

The Commonwealth Bank announced its continued involvement — its fifth season — recently.

In addition to backing the boys competition, the Commonwealth Bank will also sponsor the girls competition which will be called the Commonwealth Bank Soccer Shield.

Two hundred and eighty one (281) boys teams entered this year's Cup and two hundred and thirty one (231) girls teams entered the Shield.

Needless to say the Commonwealth Bank's continued involvement is a

big plus for schoolboy, and schoolgirl, Soccer.

The Commonwealth Bank hopes to stage its final matches prior to a major NSL or ASF fixture later in the year.

Past winners of the Cup have been:

- 1962 Maroubra Bay
- 1963 Macquarie
- 1964 Wallsend
- 1965 Keira
- 1966 Strathfield South & Cleveland Street (shared)
- 1967 Booragul
- 1968 Newcastle Tech
- 1969 Booragul
- 1970 Berkeley
- 1971 Meadowbank
- 1972 Newcastle Tech



This week ASW's ACT expert JOHNNY WARREN runs the rule over the Commonwealth Bank Soccer Cup

1973 Newcastle Tech
1974 Wallsend
1975 Wallsend & Booragul (shared)
1976 Bankstown
1977 Canterbury
1978 Normanhurst
1979 Normanhurst
1980 Woonona
1981 Keira
1982 Marsden
1983 Kogarah
1984 Epping
1985 Kogarah

Results in round one matches of this year's Commonwealth Bank Soccer Cup are: J J Cahill

2, Randwick 1; James Cook 21, Matraville 0; Engadine 3, Caringbah 0; Endeavour 1, Blakehurst 2; Canterbury 3, Dover Heights 0; Kogarah 11, Randwick North 0; Belmore 3, Strathfield South 0, Dulwich 2, Maroubra Junction 1; Woolooware 1, Kingsgrove 2; Hurstville 3, Fort Street 0; Tempe 2, Kingsgrove North 4; Kirrawee 0, Sydney Tech 1; Kendall 0, Chatham 3; Warrawong 1, Janahooka 0; Lake Illawarra 2, Port Kembla 1; Oak Flats 4, Warilla 1; Dapto 6, Kiama 1; Moruya 3, Bega 1; Ulladulla 1, Bomaderry 8; Nowra 1, Shoalhaven 2; Eden 3, Narooma 2; Figtree 1, Woonona 0; Smiths Hill 2, Wollongong 1; Berkeley 1, Kiera 3; Corrimal 1, Bulli 0; Moss Vale 0, Mulwarree 5; Queanbeyan 3, Karabar 1; Birrong 7, Bass 1; Airds 3, Picton 1; Elderslie 5, Camden 0; Condell Park 1, Bankstown Boys 4; Canley Vale 0, Westfields 5, Fairvale 1, Moorebank 7; Campbelltown 2, Casula 9; Macquarie Fields 6, Ingelburn 1; Liverpool 2, Cabramatta 4.

As part of their

sponsorship backing of Canberra City Olympians James Hardie Industries will run the James Hardie Cup for under 12 teams in the ACT.

The Cup will be played after the youth league match and prior to the NSL matches at Bruce Stadium throughout the season.

Eight clubs will participate in this year's Cup. Should matches be drawn a penalty shootout will take place at half time of the main match.

Belconnen and Majura meet in the first match of this year's cup.

TELLING IT LIKE IT IS

I AM not in the habit of answering criticism. Everyone, after all, is entitled to their opinion.

BY JOHNNY WARREN

And not everyone, after all agreed with Jesus Christ or for that matter Bob Hawke.

So why should I expect everyone to agree with everything I have to say on Australian Soccer.

But, Reg Roston's letter in last week's ASW deserves an answer. He was on about my article on basketball's success and Soccer's non success in ASW.

Well Mr Roston wasn't around in the early days of Canberra City. In fact about only half a dozen people were.

Those were the days when Soccer dominated Canberra sport, the team drew an average of 6500 spectators to the Bruce Stadium and Soccer was the sport in Canberra.

Then the "experts" became involved and over the past decade reduced Soccer's credibility, credit rating and entire existence to a non event.

Thankfully the City Club, the original Canberra City Soccer Club, led by Charles Perkins had enough guts not to walk away from a \$500,000 debt unlike one of our leading Sydney clubs (twice) has done.

Canberra basketball team and Soccer publicity.

The Canberra basketball team, non existant when I was first in Canberra, copied everything from Soccer — or the half a dozen dedicated people who kicked off Canberra City.

In terms of Soccer publicity, the Canberra Club, has allocated \$10,000 in this years budget to advertising and promotion.

For Mr Roston's information \$10,000 buys you a dozen back page ads in the Canberra Times, a dozen ads in Australian Soccer Weekly, our own radio show on 2XX — and little else.

Perhaps Mr Roston can get a better sponsor than James Hardie's three year \$190 odd thousand contribution to Soccer in the national capital than I did.

Perhaps he can also do a loaves and fishes act and get better mileage for \$10,000 advertising over thirty weeks than I can.

Perhaps he can also do it cheaper than the \$5,000 net fee I receive for doing it — provide I stay till December 1986.

Having been brought up "on the wrong side of the tracks in Botany and "educated" at Cleveland Street Boys High School and a very primitive University of NSW I have seen the other side of life many times.

Unfortunately Canberra people, perhaps like Mr Roston haven't. And that's been the biggest problem with Soccer in the ACT.

Lots of words, but when it comes to help, getting the hand in the pocket, devoting time to the game, the spoilt people of Canberra run the other way.

GAME, SET AND MATCH. END OF STORY.



COMMONWEALTH BANK CUP action as two schoolboys contest possession.

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CANBERRA — THE CITY CLUB

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ALGERIA — the giant-killers the Germans fear!

THE BIGGEST sign of relief that was heard during the draw for the World Cup Finals in Mexico came from the Algerian contingent when they heard they had steerred clear of West German!

Not that they had any fears of Germany on the playing area but for what happened between Germany and Austria in Spain, in the 1982 Finals.

BY TOM ANDERSON

In a crucial game to decide who moved forward to the second round from Group 2, Austria seemed to 'take it easy' in their clash against neighbours Germany at the El Molinon Stadium in Gijon.

The Germans won 1-0 and they and Austria went through on goal difference and Algeria were outed.

This game indeed brought shame to the 1982 series.

In Mexico Algeria will be competing in the World Cup Finals for the second successive time this year, and again will have an uphill battle to reach the second round.

It has been drawn in Group D and faces Northern Ireland in Guadalajara on June 3, Brazil in Guadalajara on June 3, Brazil in Guadalajara on June 6, and Spain in Monterrey on June 12.

In Spain four years ago, Algeria scored a memorable 2-1 first round win over West Germany — one of the biggest upsets in World Cup history — and although it also beat Chile, it was deprived of a deserved second round place because of the duplicity between West Germany and its neighbour Austria.

Eleven of the Algerians who competed in Spain will be in the squad again this summer, including Algeria's — and probably Africa's — best player Lakhdar Belloumi, who scored the winner against West German in 1982.

His range of natural skills have been compared to those of France's Michel Platini, and earned him the title of African Player of the Year in 1981.

Although he has been hampered by injuries for most of the last year, he returned to the national team and played for 60 minutes when it drew 1-1 with Fluminense of Brazil last week, and should be fully fit by the time the World Cup stars. Bel-

loumi has turned down dozens of big-money offers from the top European clubs simply because he prefers to play his Soccer at home.

Coach Rabah Saadane has used about 40 players in the past year or so, but after Algeria's poor showing at the recent African National Cup in Egypt, where it failed to make the final four, Saadane seems set on using as many of the professionals playing in Europe rather than the home-based amateurs during the World Cup.

The 'European contingent' includes forwards Rabah Madjer of Porto, Portugal, Selah Assad of Mulhouse, France, Rachid Harkouk of Notts Country, England, Djamel Zidane of Waterschei, Belgium, Tedj Bensaoula and Halim Ben Mabrouck of Racing Club Paris, Norddine Kourichi of Lille, France, Abdellah Medjadi of Monaco and Fehti Chebel of Rouen, France.

Saadane is also impressed with stopper Fodil Mejaria who plays for Chlef in Algeria and may use him. Defender Mohammed Kaci Said was also a key man in Algeria's qualification and is likely to play.

In goal, a tight race is on between Nasser Eddine Drid and Mourad Amara, with Drid apparently holding the upper hand to get the No.1 slot.

Algerian national Soccer coach Rabah Saadane is the quiet, hardworking type who started at the bottom and learned the craft of managing a winning team.

After taking over the national squad in December, 1984 his philosophy of letting his free-spirited players follow their instincts on the pitch within a basic game plan helped him secure the country's second consecutive qualification for the World Cup finals — a feat never before achieved by an African country.

Saadane, 39, says he likes his team to play a South American style, giving his players freedom to improvise and create the play.

'This is the most beautiful Soccer,' Saadane said. 'The technical side is not



LAKHDAR BELLOUMI (left) scores Algeria's second goal against West Germany in the 1982 World Cup. Algeria's 2-1 win was a result that shocked the world.

neglected. I like to play this way, but my notion of modern Soccer is to temper the technical side with realism.'

Saadane has always had a reserved nature, even as a player in the Algerian first division with Batna — his home town in Eastern Algeria — Constantine, El Biar and Blida clubs and as a solid midfielder with the national team.

He began working towards a career as a Soccer manager while still a student and semi-pro player, earning a degree as a physical education instructor and, in 1976, a Soccer coaching certificate.

On his retirement as a player, he went to France to manage third division Vichy and then was named manager of Algeria's national junior team. In 1979, he was promoted to manage the under-21 team and took that side to the quarterfinals of World Youth Cup.

At the 1982 World Cup in Spain, he acted as Khalif's assistant, getting to know players such as midfielder Lakhdar Belloumi and stopper Norddine Kourichi who now form the heart of his 1986 team.

Saadane's job was to carry on Algeria's claim to supremacy in Africa after the decline of 1970s powers Zaire and Tunisia. He did that by leading the team to its second straight qualification for the African Nations Cup in March, but suffered his first setback when the team failed to reach the final four in Egypt.

Saadane called the setback a positive, humbling experience for his players, even though the team was without many of its stars who play for European professional clubs and without Belloumi, who was injured.

The problem of getting all his best players together is noted new to the manager of the Algerian squad.

He will have only 15

days of high altitude training in Switzerland before taking his team to Mexico, but says that should be enough to whip the team into shape for the first round and its first match June 3 at Guadalajara against Northern Ireland.

Saadane admits that the team has some problems to sort out in the next few weeks. He says they are too slow in counterattacking, are weak in marking opponents and in realising exactly what system the opposing team is using.

'Undeniably, time is not on our side. Other teams have already started the last stage of their preparation and we have not yet got together,' Saadane said.

'But we are not worried. Out last stage of preparation should be enough to get together and represent our country well at the World Cup.'

Algeria had a bye in the first round of the African qualifying zone, then defeated Angola (3-2 on aggregate), and Zambia (3-0) before meeting Tunisia, 1978 World Cup finalist, in the final round.

A 4-1 win in Tunis and a 3-0 victory in Algiers earned Algeria a berth in Mexico.

Until the 1980 Olympics, Algeria had made little impression on the international Soccer scene. Until then, about the best known fact regarding the game was that writer Albert Camus once played in goal for the national team.

Although the game was imported to Algeria from France in the 1890s, Algeria has only made real international headway in the last six years.

The players have undoubtedly natural ability — but their temperament is often suspect.

Saadane said recently, 'Thanks to the natural characteristics of my players, they have readily assimilated the style of South American play.'

With the combination of European and South American training, the Algerians have learned to play a precise passing game, and when they are playing well, they have both speed and penetration in attack and defense.



the world's greats. His natural tactic is to play just behind the strikers, timing his surges from midfield to maximum effect.

In the 1982 finals, Belloumi probably played too deep, the attacking value he showed with his goal against the Germans going to waste on other occasions.

The danger is that weakness in Algeria's defense will persuade coach Rabah Saadane to pull him back to disrupt the opposition rather than commit him to the creative side of the game.

His talents have earned comparisons with Frenchman Michel Platini and Diego Maradona of Argentina, but now Belloumi has to prove himself over again having recovered from a broken leg.

He fell victim to the violent side of African Soccer when playing for his club in the African Champions' Cup last season.

Belloumi had promoted Gallia Mascara's remarkable recovery from relegation to win the Algerian championship for the first time in their first season back in the top flight.

His reputation preceded him into the tie with Libyan club Ittihad, whose players turned to aggression in the return leg after losing 4-0 in Algeria. The rough tackles came in right from the start and after 20 minutes a bad foul by Bani Abou Bakr left Belloumi with a broken leg.

It was a clean break that was pinned, but in plaster and had apparently healed well. A week after Algeria qualified for the World Cup finals he injured the leg again, but should be fully fit in time for Mexico.

Belloumi was first called into the national team in 1978 when the coach was Rachid Meklifi, the former St Etienne player. Once in the team, he became an automatic choice, only missing matches through injury.

He has never been tempted to follow his many international teammates into European club Soccer, but his own reputation puts him among

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BELLOUMI pictured in camp for Algeria.

S.A. SOCCEROOS WILL BE FIT BODY OF MEN!

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN candidates for the Socceroos will get the drop on other hopefuls when it comes to the fitness levels being demanded by coach Frank Arok.

BY TOM McKAIN

Arok has announced that squad members will have to pass speed and endurance tests at the Australian Institute of Sport, before he decides on his players for the internationals against Czechoslovakia in August.

"We certainly want players with ability, but they must also be fast and able to come through tough endurance tests," he said.

Any SA players selected by Arok after a special trial at Hindmarsh Stadium on Thursday will be tested at the SA Sports Institute to prepare them for the AIS tests.

Arok asked SA State coaching director Mike Wells to arrange a trial.

Wells will field his State team, which won the Delhi Clothing Company's international series in India last year.

The triumphant line-up will go in against "The Rest", which is expected to be made up of National League players from City and Hellas who could not make the India trip, or were not selected for the tour.

These include current

EAGLES SOAR TO FRONT

BY PAUL MORLEY

WHITE EAGLES took over top spot in Tasmania's Cadbury State League when it thrashed newcomers Howrah 6-1 at South Hobart.

Eagles' Andrew Leszczynski missed a penalty in the opening minutes but made amends later by hitting two of his team's goals.

David Stoddard was man-of-the-match. The youngster scored two excellent goals and set up three of the remaining four goals for his teammates.

The Leszczynski family act was on the programme again, too.

Apart from Andrew's two goals, Mark and Richard also weighed in with one goal each.

Howrah's token effort was scored by Karl Brightman who took advantage of a suicidal back-pass by Simon Templeman, who was playing at right-back in place of the injured Chris Leszczynski.

This was the first league goal conceded by Eagles this season.

Olympia-WPL continued its fine recent form

Cadbury State League standings:

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
White Eagles	4	3	1	0	13	1	7
Croatia-Glenorchy	4	3	1	0	13	4	7
Juventus-Pioneer	4	2	1	1	13	8	5
Olympia-WPL	4	2	0	2	15	11	4
Howrah	4	2	0	2	6	8	4
Caledonians	4	1	1	2	5	15	3
Rapid	4	0	1	3	2	9	1
Metro-Claremont	4	0	1	3	1	12	1

Leading Goalscorers: 5 S. Pace (Juventus), A. Leszczynski (White Eagles); 4 P. Xanthopoulos (Olympia), P. Forster (Olympia), T. Basic (Croatia).



hopefuls in the Hellas team, although there are two Youth internationals in Lou Hristodoulou and John Panagis.

In form, Brenton Hiern and Chris Manou could make it.

"In many cases it is up to the players to impress in club games," said Wells.

"With John Margaritis (one of Arok's assistants) based in Melbourne, he will no doubt have his own scouts to inform him how the SA players perform there when they are not against his own South

team."

City's contingent get a chance this weekend to stake claims as they are at home to South.

West take off for Melbourne Juventus.

After their first home win for the season — 1-0 over City in the Nanda Cup — Hellas' players have been given a boost for their League campaign.

If they can go on from the Cup triumph, Arok may have more than Yankos and Dunn on his list.

THE ENGLISH CONNECTION

BY DAVE WILLIAMS

IF Austral United can take out the Northern NSW State First Division premiership this season it will be due on no small way to the influence of the "English Connection".

The Austral United committee has declared that it wants its team to play in the highest available competition — the National League — and to win the Northern NSW premiership would be a sound start towards reaching its objective.

Austral secretary Dave McQuire — a former top-line goalkeeper with South Coast United and St George who also had two spells with Apia, believes the club will succeed in its initial aim.

"We have a well-balanced side that will take some beating this year," he said.

"Early indications are that there will be a keen fight for semi-final positions. But I believe that we have the talent to make a strong challenge for the premiership and the grand final."

And that talent includes several players and officials of English descent who have combined to make this year's squad one of the strongest Austral has recruited for many

years.

Captain-coach Roy Drinkwater, who hails from Manchester and is the former captain of Newcastle KB United, is dictating tactics as a central defender.

David Jones, also from Manchester, who played with Bolton Wanderers and Macclesfield Town before joining KB United, is showing sound form in his midfield-left wing position.

Another from the UK is Bill Amey, whom Alan Vest recruited for Newcastle KB United as a midfielder.

The club's two latest signings are striker Kevin Meacock, and midfielder Robert Holden.

Austral United, with its well-developed ground and flourishing licensed club, is a far cry from its post-World War II days as Greta Austral and later Newcastle Austral.

The club was forged out of the steely determination of many new settlers from Europe.

Illawarra Jottings

WITH PHIL MURPHY

PRE-SEASON favourites for the premier league, Aris broke through in style over the Anzac weekend after a shocking start to the year.

In their first four games Aris had picked up just one point and that is under the three points for a win system.

Coach Robert Fryer stuck with his regular players and it finally paid off when they beat Shellharbour 4-0 in the first round of the Bampton Cup.

The day after in a league match, Aris trounced Unanderra 5-0.

"Just watch us go from here," Fryer said after that game.

"We have been playing well but lacked confidence near goal but I knew once we scored a couple the players would respond," he said.

Aris have given some of the other teams a handy start and face an uphill battle to take the title.

With South Coast Croatia and Corrimond favourites for promotion from first division, Lysaght could be the side to cause a surprise.

○○○

Good to see one of the leading Illawarra referees, Robert Robertson, back on deck after missing the start of the season.

Robertson was unavailable early because of an illness in his family but having him back eases a bit of pressure from the number one graded refs.

The referees are still desperately short of members this season and will welcome anyone interested in joining their depleted ranks.

○○○

Fernhill managed a point in their recent scoreless draw against Tarrawanna but coach Gerry Walker wasn't impressed.

"Rubbish" was how he described an inept performance from his players.

Walker said some of them were struggling to pass the ball to a teammate and he would be telling them if they couldn't do as they are told he will be bringing up players who could.

It isn't the first time Walker has had to go back to basics with the Fernhill players — a similar thing happened early last season. They responded to the

of the goals coming from John Compagnie in only his second game since the Steve Hudson Cup series.

Burnie fought desperately to take two points from Juventus, and when

coach's demand and managed to get into the semi-finals but will need to improve dramatically to repeat the effort.

○○○
Wollongong Macedonia coach John Bingham is tipping a big future for 17-year-old winger Alex Krkovich.

He had a few games in first grade last season and should establish himself this year after recovering from a foot injury.

Bingham said he is a very fast, direct winger and provides great service for the likes of central striker Barney King.

Another young player with a future is Unanderra winger Jason Higgs, who was in the Illawarra under 15 team which did so well last year.

Rather than join the Wollongong City youth squad he decided to join Unanderra in the premier league because many of his friends are with that club.

His skill and running off the ball mark him as a player of the future, but in 1987 he needs to move up to at least State League.

○○○

Tarrawanna's long serving goalkeeper Graham Edwards has left the district to run a nursery in Ballina.

Edwards, who also played in goal for Balgownie when they were in the Sydney second division, also had a mortgage on the Illawarra number one spot.

Also an Illawarra representative opening batsman in cricket, Edwards has been succeeded in the Tarrawanna goal by David Curley.

"Charlie Brown" as he was known to his Tarrawanna team-mates was given a fitting send-off before heading north.

Mike Denton equalised after Juve had gone ahead through Dennis, it seemed a possibility. But Roger Mies struck to enable his team to take the points and remain in touch with the leaders.



KENNY DALGLISH exults after knocking in the winner on the weekend against Chelsea

NSW COACHES ASSOCIATION PRESENT

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THE JUNIOR GAME

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NEW ZEALANDERS TO VISIT HERE

OVER the past seven years, New Zealand school teams have been visiting these shores for matches against our schools, particularly in the Hunter Valley.



HASTINGS BOYS' HIGH 1986

BACK ROW: Vincent Jonassen, James Johnstone, Glen Petersen, Blair McCormick, David Bone, Richard Wilson, Chris Davis, John Doggett, David Bowden.
FRONT ROW: Hamish Davidson, Ross Palmer, Phillip Ramsey, Geoff Cuthbert, Russell Mardon.
ABSENT: James Lowrey, Mr Paul Matthews.

This year is no exception with two sides due here during the May holidays and the first week of Second Term.

The visits are arranged by Bill Turner who insists that they are not only for the purpose of playing Soccer but that they should be regarded as educational field excursions.

Consequently the New Zealand lads are given

trips to points of interest near the host schools or to industries that are important to the area.

Following previous visits here, two Hunter Region schools have a student exchange programmes operating which has proved very beneficial to schools on both sides of the Tasman.

This year Hamilton Boys' High will be returning for matches in Bris-

bane followed by visits to Glendale High and Maitland Boys' High.

A newcomer will be Hastings Boys' High from the Hawks Bay area who will visit Brisbane Boys College, Booragul High and Merewether High.

Joe Johnson will be making his second visit with the school.

Paul Matthews, the coach of Hastings, will be

making his third trip. The previous two were with Cambridge High which is only a few miles from Hamilton in the Waikato Valley.

He is now deputy-principal of Hastings.

Both New Zealand schools will face spirited opposition in their Hunter games from four local schools who have reputations as top Soccer performers.

THE NSW Amateur Soccer Federation last weekend held a two-day seminar and joint Saint meeting in Goulburn.

The seminar was held to have a look at the future of the junior code in NSW and discuss major factors affecting the development of the game at grass roots level.

"There is no single organisation involved in Soccer in this State that has any forward or development plan," NSWASF president Ian Holmes said.

"That is why we decided to hold the seminar, which proved to be invaluable."

Major issues discussed were:-

*The appointment of a full-time executive director.

*The NSWASF questioned their organisation's annual \$26,000 contribu-

tion to the NSW Federation of Soccer Clubs for the further development of the Parklea complex.

"The relationship between the Amateur and Senior bodies of the sport in NSW.

"The incorporation of the NSWASF under the NSW Companies Act.

"To further look into these issues more thoroughly we have appointed a sub-committee which has been given fairly extensive terms of reference," NSWASF publicity officer Fred Bones said.

"They will report back to the State Management Committee in July with their recommendations."

Ian Holmes said that the appointment of a full-time executive director was long overdue.

"How can you operate an organisation with over 500,000 members without at least a full-time director and a small office staff?

"The State organisation is handling so much cash, we have sponsors who need to be looked after and maintained.

"His duties would be immense and the sooner the appointment is made, the further our organisation can expand."

Holmes said that the amateurs had contributed \$52,000 over the past two years to the development of Parklea.

"As such, we would like to play a more active role in its development," he added.

State Management Committee members also strongly considered moving their office and playing headquarters to another location.

But the move did not reach the stage where a motion and vote was taken.

In reference to the re-

lationship between the NSW Federation and the NSWASF, State officials felt that a better working relationship was needed to be implemented if the code in this State was to develop.

Finally, but the most important issue discussed, was the incorporation of the NSWASF.

"Being a company, we have to operate as a business," Holmes said.

"Just take a look at the change that came about when the NSW Rugby League reorganised its structure.

"We also intend to recommend to the clubs to incorporate themselves under the Association's Incorporation Act," said Holmes.

JUNIOR GOSSIP

THE Nepean Under 16 Metropolitan Youth League from 1985 has really split up. Peter Bennett and Scott Ashton have signed for Blacktown City Under 19, Brett Budwee and Chris Ackerley are with Marconi, and Jason Whant and Darren Pratt are at Sydney Croatia. Jason Whant has also been appointed captain of the Croatia Under 19 side.

Ex-ASW editor, Brad Earl, has been appointed manager of the Nepean Association Under 12 Metropolitan Championship team.

Brad has been coaching, with success, for a number of years, at St Joseph's School, Kingswood.

★ ★ ★

The Rockhampton Federation is to be applauded for undertaking to send overseas a junior player to gain experience as an apprentice for a month with one of the leading English clubs.

Obviously it will be an expensive exercise for the Rockhampton Federation,

but it will be well worth it if the player brings professional knowledge back to Queensland.

★ ★ ★

The most progressive and forward thinking quote ASW has heard from a junior administrator in a long time was made recently by Marcarthur's Youth League secretary Danny Himbrechts.

Instead of moaning about his club playing in the second division of the youth League, which most of the other club secretaries have been doing, Danny's attitude to the situation is refreshing.

"The three divisions system has undoubtedly proven to be a step in the right direction," Danny said.

"We are not upset about it's introduction, all Marcarthur are interested in is to improve the overall standard of our club, so as we can be promoted and participate against the stronger clubs.

"Also by grading the clubs, it will further help to develop the rapid progress junior Soccer has made over recent years."

★ ★ ★

NSL club Blacktown City and the huge Granville Association will shortly be having talks in the aim of promoting Soccer jointly within their district.

A step in the right direction, and it is good to see both the junior and senior codes working together in the best interest of the sport.

★ ★ ★

Sydney City have been upset recently by my re-

marks in reference to their Under 14 side undertaking a tour overseas midway through the competition.

I felt that the club should have been severely reprimanded, possibly even expelled, and, at best, given a heavy fine for their action.

The administration committee of the Youth League obviously felt that Sydney City deserved only to be punished by forfeiting their matches and the loss of competition points.

Sydney City, in my view, has an obligation to fulfil and has cheapened the competition.

There is a time and place when a junior team should undertake an overseas tour.

If the administration committee had been stronger, the tour would not have proceeded.

My thoughts on the matter are the same as those of certain leading officials within the NSWASF.

★ ★ ★

Sydney Olympic have shown why they are a progressive Youth League club and force in the first division.

Sydney Olympic officials informed the Youth League competition secretary Howard Smith that they did not wish to forfeit their Under 15 match with Gladesville on May 10.

Olympic had every right to do so as they have a

number of players in the NSW Under 15 squad playing on that day in the national titles in Canberra.

★ ★ ★

The junior refereeing ranks, like most sporting organisations, are suffering a severe shortage of referees.

Granted this being the case, there is no excuse why Under 13 Youth League matches are continually minus the services of a qualified referee.

Youth League referees appointment's officer Bill Lodge says he is not to blame, but the fault lies with the various refereeing associations throughout the State.

To those appointment's officers in charge of the various local branches, there are referees willing and able, but simply because these people don't agree with the concept of the introduction of the Under 13 Youth League, they continually neglect this vital age group.

Youth League Soccer is the ultimate competition for a junior player, and as such these matches should take precedence over the thousands played every week.

Also the junior referee strives to be allocated to these fixtures. Instead, they are appointed to All-Age matches where they are constantly abused by players who haven't "made it" and gain pleasure in destroying the career of an aspiring senior referee.

COMMONWEALTH BANK SOCCER UP UPDATE

OVER 250 schools have battled away in the early rounds of the Commonwealth Bank Soccer Cup.

Peter Bott starred for the winners.

Fairfield H.S. scored 9 in defeating Campbelltown H.S. with hat-tricks to Briss and Locca. A surprise was the defeat of Homebush Boys H.S. by Concord 4-1.

The Metropolitan West Region have selected a strong side to contest the NSW CHS State titles.

Included in the side are NSL Youth players Russell Gendle (Blacktown City) Jason Whant (Croatia), Nick Bonanova (Croatia) and Paul Hayward (Blacktown). Met West were last years champions.

Some highlights of the opening round:

Baxland thrash Jannsan 12-0. Baxland with State player Jason Whant hammered the luckless Jannsan.

Bulli scored a close 2-1 win over Corrimal in the very strong South Coast region. Ian Padewski and

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The State League Story

NATIONAL YOUTH LEAGUE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
AIS	8	6	1	1	37	6	13
Canberra	6	5	—	1	20	9	10
Leichhardt	6	4	1	1	18	6	9
St George	6	3	2	1	14	9	8
Sydney City	5	3	1	1	15	8	7
Sydney Olympic	6	3	1	2	12	9	7
Marconi	5	3	—	2	9	5	6
Blacktown	6	2	2	2	7	13	6
Wollongong	5	1	1	3	7	12	3
Croatia	5	1	1	3	5	12	3
Inter-Monaro	6	1	—	5	5	26	2
Newcastle	6	—	1	5	4	17	1
Canterbury	6	—	1	5	2	23	1
Sat 3-4-86							
AIS 6 (Polak 29, 47, 49, 70 Koch 33, Mullen 58)							
NEWCASTLE 0.							
WOLLONGONG 1 (Stefanowski 39) ST GEORGE 1 (Belusic 40).							
Sun 4-4-86							
BLACKTOWN 0 CANTERBURY 0.							
MARCONI 2 (Marovski 20, Driene 47) INTER-MONARO 0.							
CANBERRA 4 (Lemezina 2, 38, Cerro 55, 57) NEWCASTLE 1 (o.g. Weldon 15).							
SYDNEY OLYMPIC 2 CROATIA 1.							
SYDNEY CITY 1 (Parish 81) LEICHHARDT 3 (Sacilotto o.g. 2, Radice 35, Parison 71).							

AIS continued to dominate the league with a resounding 6-0 trouncing of Newcastle at the weekend to keep them 3 points clear at the top. Newcastle had a particularly dismal weekend in the Capital playing Canberra on Sunday they conceded another four goals, two in each half losing 4-1.

Jason Polak was the star for AIS pushed into the front line by Jimmy Shoulder he helped himself to four excellent goals against a poor Newcastle side that offered only one shot on target. The win keeps the three point lead over Canterbury for the Institute who have knocked in 37 goals in just eight matches.

The tale of woe continued for the Raiders as they remained second last following two goals each from Tony Lemezina and Gus Cerro for Canberra at Bruce Stadium. Canberra riding high after their defeat of AIS last week offered Newcastle no mercy and scored all five goals as Craig Weldon put into his own net for the Novocastrians only goal of the weekend.

In other matches Leichhardt knocked off the Sliders unbeaten tag with a fine 3-1 victory at the Athletic Field. Canterbury earned themselves their first point in the big time with a scoreless draw away to Blacktown and Wollongong

too grabbed a point at home against the rampant St George, a goal a piece in the 39th and 40th minute settled the issue at the Wollongong Showground.

Sydney Olympic and Marconi both pushed up the table with home wins over Croatia and Inter-Monaro respectively.

TNT SKYPAK LEAGUE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Melita Eagles	5	3	2	0	15	3	8
Avala	5	3	1	1	7	3	7
Sunderland	5	3	1	1	5	2	7
Manly W'gah	5	2	2	1	7	4	6
Ku-ring-gai	5	2	2	1	7	6	6
Polonia	5	2	2	1	7	8	6
Uruguayan	5	2	2	1	5	7	6
Wollongong	5	2	1	2	4	4	5
Warringah	5	2	0	3	11	13	4
Fairy Meadow	5	2	0	3	7	7	4
Rockdale Ilinden	5	0	1	4	6	12	1
Penrith City	5	0	0	5	3	15	0

TNT SKYPAK SOCCER LEAGUE

	1st	2nd	3rd
Melita E v Polonia	3-0	6-0	3-0
Uruguayan Auburn v Rockdale	1-0	3-3	1-5
Manly Warringah v Sutherland S	0-2	1-1	0-3
Wollongong Mac v Avala	1-0	2-2	0-1
Fairy Meadow v Ku-ring-gai	3-0	1-3	4-3
Penrith City v Warringah F/Water	2-3	1-2	8-1

STATE LEAGUE SECOND DIVISION

Canterbury Dist v Blacktown United	2-0	0-7	0-5
Bankstown Nat v Bathurst 75	0-6	0-0	1-6
Campbelltown City v Yugal	3-4	1-5	4-1
Gladesville Hsy v Queens Park	7-2	3-1	2-0
Kingsford v Dee Why	3-0	0-0	4-0
Artarmon v Nth Bankstown	1-2	0-2	

WOLLONGONG 1 AVALA 0

WOLLONGONG MACEDONIA took out the big match at the Berkeley Sports Ground that had just about everything. The home side won 1-0 over Avala.

In front of a huge crowd, Macedonia knocked off the leader of the competition in a match

that saw many chances missed.

Barry Robinson came on as a replacement at half-time and was sent-off 10 minutes later because of two bookable offences.

The all-important goal was scored in the 65th minute by striker Dean Gartner. It came from build-up through Ron Sattin, who provided an accurate cross from the left to the far post where Gartner headed it in.

The sending-off sparked the Wollongong side into action though Avala had a few close shaves.

Best on the field was Anthony Welbourne who was in fact concussed with five minutes remaining. He refused to come off the field with blood oozing out of his mouth.

MELITA EAGLES 3 POLONIA 0

MELITA EAGLES defeated Polonia 3-0 at Melita Stadium in a match of missed opportunities.

The match started in amazing fashion when Melita goalkeeper Dragan Pupovac went perilously close to putting the ball in his own net in the sixth minute. As Pupovac attempted to throw the ball out to fullback Craig Williams he threw it toward his own goal! The ball went inches wide.

Melita then proceeded to shoot recklessly and missed some five chances in the space of 20 minutes. Polonia themselves were not without chances and could have grabbed a couple of goals in that time.

In the 60th minute the referee incensed the sizeable Melita crowd when he failed to rule in the affirmative over a penalty appeal. Birrell Serbas was having a terrible time in finishing and could easily have ended the day with no less than a hat-trick.

Andrew Callinan came on and with one of his

STATE LEAGUE THIRD DIVISION

Nth Ryde RSL v Bondi Marine	1-0	3-1	2-3
King Tomislav v West United	1-3	0-0	0-0
Uni of NSW v Baulkham Hills	2-2	1-4	0-5
Campbelltown G v Granville Chile	0-1	1-1	1-1
Mt Druitt v Moorebank L pool	2-1	1-2	1-4
Port Hacking v Rooty Hill	1-2	0-4	6-0

INTER URBAN FIRST DIVISION

	1st	2nd
Chelsea v Nineveh Eagles	3-1	1-0
Eastwood St A v Schofields	7-0	2-0
Padstow Park v Concordia	4-1	3-0
Spanish Club v Fairfield Kiev	5-1	1-1

INTER URBAN SECOND DIVISION

Chile Sports v Pagewood	1-2	1-5
Liverpool City v Hurstville Zagreb	4-1	3-0
Hawkesbury Dist v Rosebery	1-4	2-1
Maroubra v Green Valley	2-0	3-0
Macquarie Uni v Trasandinos	2-1	2-0
Dulwich Hill v Wentworth	8-1	5-2

INTER URBAN THIRD DIVISION

Chullora v Haberfield B/D's	0-3	2-3
Sydney Maccabi v Welcome	1-2	0-5
Lansvale v Robins	4-2	1-0
Blacktown W v P Lustanos	1-4	1-2
Colo Colo v Rangers Hadjuk	2-3	1-3
Concord v Greenland	1-1	1-2

INTER URBAN FOURTH DIVISION

Argentinian Lid v Luddenham Croatia	1-1	0-1
Columbian v Murray Farm Rangers	1-1	1-4
Abruzzi v Castle Hill	2-0	1-1
Jedinstvo United v Cyprus United	2-4	0-1
Crescent Star v Macedonia Y.	4-2	2-2

INTER

THE WOMENS SOCCER SCENE

FIFA CONFIRMS WOMEN'S WORLD CUP

BY JOHN ECONOMOS

THE first official Women's World Cup set down for 1988, was confirmed by FIFA (World Football governing body) recently to the Australian Soccer Weekly. (see letter on this page).

In recent weeks, I wrote that the likely venue could possibly be Hong Kong and NOT Japan as had been bandied around last year.

FIFA's letter tends to confirm what I had written.

FIFA also confirmed that the number of nations taking part in the Women's World Cup would be 16 and by invitation.

Unlike the Men's

World Cup, FIFA wishes that the Women's World Cup be staged every two years starting with 1988.

All matches according to FIFA, will be played over two 40 minute sessions.

Only ladies over the age of 16 will be eligible.

To date, the nations highly favoured to be one of the first invited to the World Cup, would have to be:

Italy, West Germany

and Tawain.

For years, the Italians have been rated very highly.

The West German girls also have excelled, probably the world's best, qualifications for the World Cup.

West Germany won the last two "Women's World Invitational Football Tournaments" played in Taiwan in 1980 and 1984.

Australia finished in fifth place amongst the 11 competing nations in Taiwan.

The Tawainese as well, rate highly, having finished second to the Germans in the "W.W.I.F.T." in 1984 and followed this up by winning the second Oceania Cup recently staged in

New Zealand.

As reported in ASW, the Australian Women's Soccer Association, is trying to stage the third Oceania Cup tournament later this year or early next year, in Australia.

At this stage, the winner of this Cup could possibly be selected as the entrant to represent Oceania in the World Cup.

It is not yet clear as to whether Australia and New Zealand could be invited to go to Hong Kong.

But be assured, that both National coaches, Fred Robins and the Kiwis' Roy Cox, will do everything possible to see that their squads get to Hong Kong.



FÉDÉRATION INTERNATIONALE
DE FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION

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AUSTRALIAN SOCCER WEEKLY
Att. Mr. John Economos
P.O. Box 406
BROADWAY NSW 2007

AUSTRALIA
ZURICH,
HITZIGWEG 11

WG/imb

Dear Sir,

Thank you for your letter dated 8 April 1986, concerning the planned First Women's World Tournament.

In order to clarify the situation, please be informed as follows:

- The competition should be staged in 1988, probably within an Asian country (i.e. Hong Kong), which has not yet been fixed.
- The number of participating teams will be 16.
- Participation mode for this 1st Women's World Tournament will certainly be an invitational one. If possible, teams from all of FIFA's Continental Confederations will be taken into consideration.
- The Women's World Tournament should be held every 2 years, in different countries of the Continental Confederations.
- The playing time will be 2 x 40 minutes, size of ball No. 5, and the age limit will stipulate women older than 16 years.

Trusting this information will contribute to remove misleading rumours, we remain with kind regards.

FÉDÉRATION INTERNATIONALE
DE FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION

Walter Gagg
Head of Technical Department



THE AUSTRALIAN squad that took part in the Oceania Cup in New Zealand.

IRENE TAKES A KICK AT UWE!

HAVING spent the last 27 years on Soccer administration, with the final 12 years in Women's Soccer, I suggest I qualify as to knowing something about which I speak.

I grieve me to see that the best (journalist) friend that Women's Soccer has had, John Economos, has recently had to share the Women's Page with a writer who is damaging the code he is writing about.

Your paper sir, is aptly named the AUSTRALIAN SOCCER WEEKLY from which we have come to expect a wide and comprehensive coverage of publicity from every State in Australia, giving the reader not only interesting topics, but the facts that are checked before going to print.

Your recent writer, Uwe Bracklow, may be informed about the wheelings and dealing of NSWWASF, being an executive of that Federation.

It appears this man is

writing solely for NSW ad using ASW.

I suggest he give his news to an opposition Soccer paper that only covers NSW and leave the space he is using in ASW for more State and national news, as the name of your paper indicates.

I am in contact with many of your readers from other States and they ask; "What is the use of ordering ASW only to read about the NSW Women's Soccer League? They ask, what about the other (9) state bodies playing women's Soccer, who are eager for publicity from a journalist who will help build up their code and not destroy it.

If NSWWASF wish to withdraw from the AWSA (as has been stated to me on several occasions) I suggest they take a vot from their playing members first, — not merely their committee.

There are many dedicated young ladies in NSW who dream of representing the AWSA and playing for their country, as well as most players in all the other (9) affiliated

bodies. Therefore, I question the method of this person, on questioning the need for the AWSA (in your issue April 15), I suggest he is playing a game of politics, under the cover of the AUSTRALIAN SOCCER WEEKLY.

Statements like this can be very damaging to the code, and when many people give hours of their time for the benefit of others, all I can say is:

"Who needs people like Uwe Bracklow sorting for their code?"

Certainly not the AWSA — and most certainly not the paper we ALL need. — AUSTRALIAN SOCCER WEEKLY!!

Irene E. Sneyd, JP.
AWSA Life Member

Advertise in
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Phone
John Economos
on 660 2033



JOANNE MILLMAN juggles the ball during a training session for Australia.

tough Queensland defender is concerned.

Yes it's non other than Australia's top centre-back, Joanne Millman, recently voted as Australia's best performer in the last Oceania Cup Tournament played in New Zealand.

Joanne's no nonsense, tough tackling, saw Australia qualify into the Cup Final where they met the highly skilful Taiwan.

Playing for the Brisbane club Eastern Suburbs Joanne is employed by the Department of Treasury, but assures all ASW readers that her amateur status has not been affected.

One of Australia's most consistent defenders since first being selected for the National squad back in 1981, Joanne's wonderful sense of humour makes her ever-so popular with her team mates.

Through playing Soccer for Australia, Joanne has travelled to Hawaii, New Caledonia, China, Taiwan and New Zealand.

"It is easily the best way to see some of the world by playing for Soccer for your country."

"The fun and memories gathered whilst on tour are invaluable," Joey told

us from Brisbane last night.

The Millman family is a real Soccer family.

Joey has five brothers and two sisters.

All have played the game.

Sister Helen played with Aston Villa back in 1964 in Brisbane whilst her younger sister, Kerry, is a former International temporarily retired from National duties.

Brother Ron, currently playing with Queensland State League side, Ipswich United, is a top class striker who has played for years in the NSL and last year won the coveted Rothmans Medal.

National Women's coach, Fred Robins, has nothing but sheer admiration for Joanne as a player as well as a person.

"She is a pleasure to coach as Joey is a model player," Robins told us.

Besides Soccer, Joanne plays Indoor Cricket, Golf and Volleyball.

Our picture of this top player on this page, shows Joanne Millan going through some ball control exercises at Canberra's Australian Institute of Sport.

TEAMS WANTED!

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BEARZOT LEAVES OUT TOP STRIKER

ENZO BEARZOT caused a minor shock in Italian football circles when he named his top 22 for the Mexican World Cup last week.

BY FRANK COLETTA

The squad is fairly impressive although there are the usual questionable decisions that go with every selected squad.

The tried and tested players such as Paolo Rossi, Antonio Cabrini, Gaetano Scirea, Bruno Conti, Marco Tardelli and Alessandro Altobelli are all there.

Then there are the youngsters in Giovanni Galli (the number one goalkeeper), Sebastiano Nela, Roberto Tricella, Fernando de Napoli, Antonio Di Gennaro, Gianluca Viali and Giuseppe Galderisi.

The squad gathered in Rome on Friday where they headed south toward the regions of Calabria amid the mountains for a 10-day training camp and a final wrap-up friendly against China on May 11 in Napoli.

One that quite rightly has its critics, a match against such a lowly nation and one that relies on quick interchanging movements, of which Italy will not confront at all (possibly apart from South Korea) because of the rarefied and demanding Mexican atmosphere.

Although the younger, more inexperienced members of the squad will

probably be used.

The shock omissions from the squad would have to be goalkeeper, Stefano Tacconi of Juventus; Bruno Giordano Napoli's striker, defender Franco Baresi of AC Milan and Torino's midfielder Giuseppe Dossena.

The goalkeepers selected are Galli, AS Roma's Franco Tancredi and Inter-Milan's Walter Zenga. Galli went to the 1982 World Cup as the number three keeper whilst Zenga who has done a good job as Under 21 keeper has never represented. Tancredi has been capped some ten times.

Stefano Tacconi is the number one goalkeeper in Italy but his penchant (not unlike Bruce Grobbelaar of Liverpool) to drop the odd clanger has turned Bearzot away.

Also the non-selection of Bruno Giordano has caused much comment. Rightly so. He has been a quite lethal marksman for Lazio in the past and now Napoli, although his form fell away badly towards the end of the season and in his final few games for Italy. Again Bearzot took this into account.

World Cup veterans, Rossi, Conti, Cabrini, Scirea, Tardelli and Altobelli are all four years older, but many say, wiser

and experienced. Rossi is only 29, Conti 30, Cabrini 28, Altobelli, Tardelli 32 along with Scirea.

Currently there are doubts over the fitness of ace centre-forward, Aldo Serena of Juventus. This runs a curious parallel to 1982 when the then no.1 striker in Italy, Roberto Bettega was forced to miss the finals with a knee injury. Italian supporters will be hoping that lightning doesn't strike twice in this respect.

The full squad is:

1 Giovanni Galli (Fiorentina), 2 Giuseppe Bergomi (Inter), 3 Antonio Cabrini (Juventus), 4 Fulvio Collovati (Inter), 5 Sebastiano Nela (Roma) 6 Gaetano Scirea (Juventus) 7 Roberto Tricella (Verona) 8 Pietro Vierchowod (Sampdoria) 9 Carlo Ancelotti (Roma) 10 Salvatore Bagni (Napoli) 11 Giuseppe Baresi (Inter) 12 Franco Tancredi (Roma) 13 Fernando de Napoli (Avellino) 14 Antonio Di Gennaro (Verona) 15 Marco Tardelli (Inter) 16 Bruno Conti (Roma) 17 Gianluca Viali (Sampdoria) 18 Alessandro Altobelli (Inter) 19 Giuseppe Galderisi (Verona) 20 Paolo Rossi (AC Milan) 21 Aldo Serena (Juventus) 22 Walter Zenga (Inter).



BRUNO GIORDANO, misses out

HAMILTON THINK BIG

HAMILTON ACADEMICALS, one of the small fry of Scottish football, are making a bold bid to sign a super Brazilian, 21-year-old Jorge Fernandes from Fluminense.

Hamilton boss John Lambie says: "It is no gimmick. I am prepared to offer Fernandes a full-time professional contract for next season."

Since Fernandes has represented Brazil at Under 16 and Under 18 levels, and is a prolific goalscorer, it seems incredible that, at 21, he

would be happy to drift into the wilderness with Accies!

It may not be a Hamilton gimmick but the whole business does look rather far-fetched.



WEST HAM'S FRANK McAVENNIE (centre) has hit shot blocked by Manchester City's Barry Siddal (right) during West Ham's 1-0 win in midweek.

UNICEF MATCH IN ROSE BOWL

NORTH AMERICA versus Rest of the World — that's the big charity match now being arranged at the conclusion of the World Cup.

All proceeds will go to charity and it is hoped the game will be televised in 100 countries.

A similar match was played four years ago after the World Cup in Spain and it attracted a huge

crowd and record receipts.

This time, the venue has been switched from New York City to Los Angeles Rose Bowl.

Proceeds from the match will be handed over to UNICEF.

KARL-HEINZ WANTS A TON

KARL-HEINZ RUMMENIGGE is yet another international star hoping to join the "ton-up" club.

Rummенигge is anxious to play 100 times for West Germany and, at 31, he ought to make it in the next couple of years.

When he played against

ENGLISH third and fourth division clubs are faced with the prospect of switching completely from full-time to part-time.

Many already cannot support full-time players. But a move to 100 per cent part-time football would be a major step for the clubs.

Brazil in Stuttgart, Rummенигge — now with Inter Milan — was having his 88th game for Germany.

PAUL GASCOIGNE, in his first full season with Newcastle United, looks the brightest young midfield prospect in the English first division.

Not surprisingly, he is attracting interest from top clubs, including Manchester United

SCIFO SENT OFF

ENZO SCIFO is described as the new "wonder boy" of Belgian football but it seems he has a problem.

Scifo was sent off the field playing for Anderlecht against Waterschei.

This has brought the brilliant youngster a reprimand from Belgium's national coach Guy Thys.

TIME FOR SPRING CLEAN

DUNDEE UNITED, one of Scotland's more successful clubs, are due to have a clear out of their playing staff.

That's why scouts from West Ham, Newcastle United and Sunderland have flown north to see what bargains can be had at Tannadice.

CROWDS DROP DOWN

MATCH attendances in Sweden a few years ago were a healthy 15,000 on average but they've slumped.

The average is now 5,000. With Sweden failing to qualify for Mexico, interest in the game has evaporated.

CLARKE FOR SPURS

COLIN CLARKE, Bournemouth's goalscoring sensation, is lined up for a big transfer to Tottenham Hotspur but there will be several other clubs in the bidding as soon as Bournemouth decide to sell.

A few weeks ago, Sunderland made a bid of \$500,000 for the prolific scorer but that offer was withdrawn following some problems on the Sunderland board.

Clarke's price has certainly increased since.

And if he has a good World Cup - he is expected to lead Northern Ireland's front line in Mexico - the price will go up even more.

A SOLID TEAM BUT WHERE IS FLAIR?

ENGLAND's squad to play in the World Cup in Mexico contains few surprises, with manager Bobby Robson relying on most of the players who have represented the country over the past couple of years.

DAVID JACK assesses England's World Cup squad

British critics are far from convinced that this is a squad capable of winning a World Cup and I must share their pessimism.

It requires individual brilliance, rather than all-round team ability, for a team to carry off Soccer's greatest prize.

Sadly, there is a shortage of outstanding individuals in Robson's 22-man selection.

There is the impeccable Glenn Hoddle, of course, and the talented Bryan Robson — but few others are likely to terrify the rest of the world.

Hoddle and Robson operate in the midfield, but England's main requirement is a forward, perhaps two or three, of similar skill. Such players are not on the list for Mexico.

In fairness to manager Robson, it must be said that this type of player is a rare breed in 1986 English football. Oh for a Tommy Lawton, Jimmy Greaves, Jimmy Hagan, Wilf Mannion or Len Shackleton to add lustre to a pedestrian English attack.

Or dare we even say it . . . oh for a Stanley Matthews or Tom Finney!

At times, John Barnes and Peter Beardsley have given hints of greatness but these players could not be mentioned in the same breath as Matthews and Finney.

At least England should be well served in defence.

Few nations will take defenders of the ability of Ken Sansom, Viv Anderson, Gary Stevens (Everton) and Terry Butcher — or a goalkeeper as capable as Peter Shilton — on the Mexican assignment.

Indeed, looking back four years to England's last expedition to the World Cup, nothing appears to have changed.

In Spain in 1982, England were a useful team but totally lacking in individual flair and magic.

With Kevin Keegan injured and Paul Mariner and Trevor Francis unable to compensate for Keegan's absence, England struggled in vital matches against very ordinary West German and Spanish opponents.

The Bobby Robson era has replaced the Ron Greenwood era but startling changes have not been made.

Bryan Robson and Glenn Hoddle will carry a heavy burden when the group matches against Portugal, Poland and Morocco are staged in Monterrey.

These are the players selected by England:

Peter Shilton (Southampton), age 36, caps 79. Chris Woods (Norwich), age 26, caps 3. Gary Bailey (Man Utd), age 27, caps 2. Viv Anderson (Arsenal), age 29, caps 20. Gary M. Stevens (Everton), age 23, caps 8. Kenny Sansom (Arsenal), age 27, caps 63. Terry Butcher (Ipswich), age 27, caps 38. Alvin Martin (West Ham),

age 27, caps 14. Terry Fenwick (QPR), age 26, caps 14. Gary A. Stevens (Tottenham), age 24, caps 4. Bryan Robson (Man Utd), age 29, caps 50. Ray Wilkins (AC Milan), age 29, caps 78. Glenn Hoddle (Tottenham), age 28, caps 31. Steve Hodge (Aston Villa), age 23, caps 2. Trevor Steven (Everton), age 22, caps 9. Peter Reid (Everton), age 29, caps 5. Gary Lineker (Everton), age 25, caps 12. Mark Hateley (AC Milan), age 24, caps 16. Peter

Beardsley (Newcastle), age 25, caps 3. Kerry Dixon (Chelsea), age 24, caps 5. John Barnes (Watford), age 22, caps 25. Chris Waddle (Tottenham), age 25, caps 4.

Stand-by Players: Martin Hodge (Sheff Wednesday), age 27, caps 0. Dave Watson (Norwich), age 24, caps 6. Stewart Robson (Arsenal), age 21, caps 0. Paul Bracewell (Everton), age 23, caps 3. Trevor Francis (Sampdoria), age 32, caps 52. Mick Harford (Luton), age 27, caps 0.

BAYERN STAR HAS TO QUIT THE GAME

BAYERN MUNICH's West German international Wolfgang Dremmler started the season with high hopes of representing his country in the World Cup.

Now those hopes have been shattered by injury.

Dremmler has a knee problem which has wrecked his career. At 31, and with 27 international appearances to his credit,

the Bayern midfielder has hardly kicked a ball for most of the year.

Now comes the news he dreaded . . . doctors have told him he'll have to retire from football.

COVENTRY CASH

BEFORE signing as player-manager of Glasgow Rangers, Graeme Souness had plenty of offers from UK clubs.

You'll never guess which club made the biggest offer.

It was struggling, unglamorous, Coventry City. They were ready to pay Souness more money than Rangers, Arsenal or Spurs.

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'ONCE IS ENOUGH' SAYS SOUNESS

GRAEME SOUNESS, recently appointed player-manager of Glasgow Rangers, has no intention of being shoved around by directors.

If he doesn't make the grade at Ibrox Park, Souness will not get on the treadmill and seek other similar jobs.

"It is my intention to give management a try — and I'll try it ONLY ONCE," said the Scottish

World Cup skipper.

He can afford to be independent. His wife Danielle inherited a fortune from her dad and she has enough spare cash to keep the Souness's in luxury for the rest of their lives.

By the way, Souness's new job will not interfere with his World Cup trip to Mexico.

"Graeme will be in Mexico as a Rangers' player," said the club's chief executive David Holmes, adding, "that makes me very proud indeed."

BRIEGEL COULD BE ON MOVE

VERONA are not having much luck pinning down their star German defender Hans-Peter Briegel to a new contract.

Briegel has been offered a contract by the Italian club but, instead of just formally signing it, he

has asked for it to be translated into German.

Verona fear their star player is stalling. They've

heard rumours that he is being tempted by big money to switch to Fiorentina.

HOW TO KNOCK A TOP TEAM!

NORWICH CITY players have been strongly criticised in the Norwich match programme and the article, oddly enough, was written by club coach Mel Machin.

Seeing Norwich have handsomely won promotion to the first division after a magnificent season, the players are unhappy about Machin's comments

which suggested some did not put their hearts into the game.

Team manager Ken Brown is also upset and commented: "Mel's com-

ments should not have appeared in the programme. I'll be having a word with him. We can do without that sort of unfortunate publicity."



RAY STEWART, West Ham's penalty expert scores from the spot at Upton Park to beat Manchester City 1-0.

BARCELONA MUST SELL

BARCELONA seem determined to buy, buy, buy.

The Spanish millionaire club, said to be the wealthiest in the world, have already fixed up Mark Hughes from Manchester United and say they also want Everton's Gary Lineker.

They already have foreigners Berndt Schuster and Steve Archibald on their books.

Somebody will have to go because Spanish clubs are only permitted two foreign players in their line-ups.

Schuster was supposed

to be going to Hamburg SV but the German team couldn't afford him.

Now Archibald's situation is looking interesting.

The Scottish international claims he has been offered a new five-year contract but he also says two Italian clubs are interested in him.

Don't be surprised if Steve turns his back on Europe completely and returns to London.

He admits: "I would love to play for a London

club again. I won two F.A. Cup-winners medals and a UEFA Cup medal with Spurs and the fans there were wonderful.

"If someone made me an offer I couldn't refuse, I'd be back in London like a shot."

Archibald has a public house in the East End and he also owns a home in London.

He says he is a far better player now than when he used to delight the fans at Tottenham.



JUVENTUS left-back ANTONIO CABRINI flies high to ram home a spectacular goal in Juve's 3-2 win against Lecce last weekend that clinched the title for the 22nd time!

MUNOZ WARNS SPAIN

NORTHERN IRELAND look to be one of the chopping blocks in the World Cup but group rivals Spain are not taking the Irishmen lightly.

Spanish team boss Miguel Munoz believes Ireland, having caused plenty of surprises four years ago in the World Cup in Spain, could again shock a few rivals.

"Only a fool with ignore the danger posed by Northern Ireland," said Munoz.

"I have watched them in their last two internationals and nothing has changed in the past four years."

"Their defence never loses concentration and their forwards work 90 minutes chasing every ball."

"It is a simple, basic and unentertaining style of football but a dangerously effective style at the same time."

CARDIFF GOING BROKE

CARDIFF CITY players, office staff and manager Alan Durban could all receive redundancy notices soon.

The famous Welsh club is in dire financial straits and unless a wealthy saviour appears quickly, Cardiff could be out of business.

CLOSE SHAVE BORO!

MIDDLESBROUGH's new manager Bruce Rioch will send players home if they turn up for training with "five o'clock shadow."

Says Rioch: "Failing to shave is the first sign of laziness. Middlesbrough will not be a lazy club while I am in charge."

Maybe the Boro should get Gillette as a sponsor!

JIM'S HEADLINE GREEK TACKLE

THIS is the controversial tackle by AEK's Jimmy Patikas on Panathinaikos goalkeeper Nick Saganis which made a big story in Greece last week.

Saganis's leg was broken and a member of the Panathinaikos club actually served Patikas - the former Australian star - with a summons!

The pictures do not prove if Patikas was innocent or guilty.

Clearly Patikas is making a lunge for the ball while the opposing goalkeeper attempts to get it under control.

In such an incident, it is difficult, and indeed sometimes impossible, for the attacking player to pull out of a collision with a goalkeeper.

It must be stated that, while some Panathinaikos supporters were angry about the incident, Patikas was not shown a yellow card by the referee.

Top picture shows Patikas about to make contact with the goalkeeper. Picture on right was taken immediately after the two players collided.



SCHUMACHER'S CONFIDENCE IS CRUSHED

WEST GERMANY's World Cup goalkeeper Tony Schumacher had his confidence for Mexico badly dented in the UEFA Cup Final first leg match between Real Madrid and FC Cologne.



Real Madrid's Emil Butragueno skips out of a tackle by a Cologne defender.

Schumacher, rated by many as Europe's top goalkeeper — and perhaps the best in the world — had to pick the ball out of his net five times.

Real beat their German opponents 5-1, making the return leg, surely, little more than a formality.

This was a return to the great days a Real Madrid, a team, which some years ago, strode mercilessly over all opponents in Europe.

There were 85,000 spectators in the magnificent Bernebeau Stadium to see the slaughter of Cologne.

Surprisingly, Cologne scored first when skipper Klaus Allofs put them ahead after half an hour.

That was the motivation Real needed to put on a super show.

Hugo Sanchez equalised seven minutes before half-time and, four minutes later, Gordillo put the Spaniards in front, heading in a Juanito free-kick.

In the second half, Jorge Valdano scored the third goal. Valdano, an Argentinian, added number four with six minutes left and the fifth and final

goal came from veteran Santillana with only a minute to go.

TEAMS:

REAL MADRID — Agustin, Solana, Camacho, Salguero, Michel, Gordillo, Juanito, Butragueno, Sanchez, Allofs.

Martin-Vazquez (Santillana), Valdano.

COLOGNE — Schumacher, Prestin, Geils, Gielchen, Steiner, Geilenkirchen, Littbarski (Dickel), Hoenerbach, Bein (Haesler), Janssen, Allofs.

MODEST GARY NEEDS BOOTS

HAVING scored 33 goals in eight months for Everton, Gary Lineker's boots have worn out!

He is now breaking in a new pair, hoping they'll be just right for Mexico and the World Cup.

While most people rate Lineker as the greatest find for years, he still seems puzzled by his re-

markable goalscoring feats.

"I'm not a great goalscorer," said Gary.

His fans certainly would not agree.

Lineker, despite all the praise and adulation, re-

mains a modest man — as he demonstrated after being voted "Footballer of the Year."

"Winning the award was a tremendous honour because I couldn't imagine anyone voting for me," he said.